

## Liberals urge Mideast conference

HELSINKI (R) — The Liberal International (LI), grouping liberal politicians, Saturday condemned Iraq's takeover of Kuwait and called for an international Middle East peace conference. In an resolution at the end of their three-day congress, liberals from 30 countries said sanctions were the best way to make Iraq comply with United Nations resolutions but that force may have to be used as a last resort. It called for Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait, the restoration of the "legitimate" Kuwaiti government and the return of all foreigners caught up in the conflict. But the LI also urged steps towards what it termed a durable peace in the Middle East, including an international conference. It called for a total ban on production of chemical weapons and the destruction of existing stocks. The LI congress attended by more than 300 representatives also adopted a so-called Helsinki declaration on ecologically sustainable development. It said more rapid action was needed to protect the climate and said governments should set a target of cutting carbon dioxide emissions by half by 2010. The liberals proposed a U.N. council for the environment, with similar status and authority to the Security Council.

Volume 15 Number 4514

AMMAN SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1990, RABIA AWWAL 18, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Arafat arrives

AMMAN (I.T.) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat arrived here from Baghdad late Saturday after a visit to Iraq.

In an arrival statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, he said a "practical solution to the Gulf crisis while preserving the interests of the Arab Nation is an Arab solution under an international umbrella."

However, he said, "a solution in all problems of the region is a basic requirement."

Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said the Palestinian role "falls within the Arab efforts to solve the problem." He paid tribute to the efforts in the region by His Majesty King Hussein.

Arafat, who is accompanied by his aide Salah Khalaf and PLO Executive Committee member

Mahmoud Abbas, was received upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Mass'adeh and Minister of Culture Khaled Al Karaki.

## PLO urges Palestinians not to attack Egypt

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief representative in Egypt Saturday urged Palestinians living here not to be drawn into actions aimed at "destabilizing Egypt's security." Saeed Kamal's statement, distributed by the government's Middle East News Agency (MENA), came two days after President Hosni Mubarak warned Palestinians against carrying out attacks in Egypt. On Saturday, Egypt's largest newspaper, the state-owned Al Abram, reported that 23 Palestinians and seven Iraqis are in custody for trying to enter Egypt on sabotage missions (see page 2).

## 2 Jordanians killed in Turkey crash

ANKARA (R) — A bus overturned on a bend in central Turkey Saturday killing 11 passengers, including two Jordanians, state-run radio said. A further 23 passengers were injured in the accident near Aksaray City, 220 kilometers south of Ankara, it added. The radio named the Jordanians as Babat Husnu, 35, and Ali Abdul Naijeh, 63.

## TASS to open bureau in Israel

MOSCOW (AP) — TASS will open a news bureau in Israel, an official with the Soviet news agency said Friday. The exact location of the TASS office has not been decided yet, said Tatjana Kitayeva of the news agency's international department. The bureau chief will be Alexander A. Zhurdo, she said in a telephone interview. It was announced at the United Nations on Sunday that the Soviet Union and Israel plan to open consulates in each other's countries, representing a major step in restoring relations that were cut after the 1967 war.

## Ex-head of Egyptian antiquities dept. dies

CAIRO (AP) — Ahmad Kadry, who headed the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation through a turbulent six years in the 1980s and lost his job because a rock fell from the sphinx, has died in the United States. He was 59. Friends said Saturday that Kadry died Thursday in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he was awaiting a liver transplant. Suffering from liver cancer, he fell into a coma before the operation could be performed.

## Hezbollah clashes with Syrian troops

BEIRUT (R) — Fighters of the Hezbollah militia battled Syrian troops in Beirut's southern suburbs Saturday, killing four people and wounding six, security sources said. Witnesses said the six-hour clash broke out over a dispute between Hezbollah gunmen and Syrian troops manning a checkpoint in the Bir Al Abed neighbourhood.

New energy-saving measures take effect Oct. 13

## Two-day weekend, revised working hours announced

Commercial establishments to close at 7 p.m.

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government Saturday announced a series of energy conservation measures, including a two-day weekend for all government departments and offices and limiting the evening working hours of commercial establishments except certain essential services.

A statement issued after a regular cabinet session chaired by Prime Minister Mudar Badran said all government offices will observe holidays during Thursdays and Fridays instead of the present one-day holiday on Fridays. The statement said the new working hours will start at 7:45 a.m. and end at 3:15 p.m. Military and security establishments as well as other departments deemed essential by the concerned ministries will be exempt from the regulation.

Official cars, including those of ministers, will not be used during Thursdays and Fridays.

The cabinet will continue studies on rationalisation of energy consumption in various fields and adopt suitable measures in light of studies conducted by various ministerial committees, the statement said. It named

The statement said the adherence to the measures, which it said were warranted by the emergency situation in the country, will be strictly observed and monitored to ascertain their impact in terms of energy saving.

The statement, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said all commercial establishments should close at 7 p.m. but pharmacies, bakeries, clinics and gas stations are exempt from the regulation. Restaurants, cafes, clubs and wedding halls and other entertainment establishments as well as cinemas should close by 11 p.m., it said. In addition, all neon sign advertisements should be put off at 11 p.m.

Street lighting will be switched off at 5 a.m.

Official cars, including those of ministers, will not be used during Thursdays and Fridays.

The cabinet will continue studies on rationalisation of energy consumption in various fields and adopt suitable measures in light of studies conducted by various ministerial committees, the statement said. It named

(Continued on page 5)

the committees as food security committee, rationalisation of consumption committee, price monitoring committee, employment committee, and popular mobilisation committee.

All measures will go into effect as of Saturday, Oct. 13, the cabinet

stated.

According to energy experts, these measures would save the government at least 20 per cent of its present oil bills, particularly in light of the dramatic rise in oil prices to around \$33 to \$35 a barrel in the wake of the Gulf crisis and the cut-off in Saudi oil supplies to Jordan last month.

They noted that at least 350,000 people commute to Amman every day from other cities such as Zerqa, Irbid, Mafrag and Karak and the two-day holiday means a reduction in the use of transport facilities and thus a cut in oil consumption.

Official cars, including those of ministers, will not be used during Thursdays and Fridays.

The cabinet will continue studies on rationalisation of energy consumption in various fields and adopt suitable measures in light of studies conducted by various ministerial committees, the statement said. It named

(Continued on page 5)

The government is studying various measures to support the national economy," Badran said and called on the citizens to rationalise their use of their vehicles and electricity.

The government and parliament are cooperating in launching a campaign among the public to boost the awareness of the need to conserve energy.

Jordan is getting Iraqi oil at concessionary prices but the Kingdom has said it has no plans to increase its present intake of Iraqi oil — estimated to meet 40 per cent of Jordan's needs — and was seeking alternative sources of supply.

Prime Minister Badran confirmed Thursday that Jordan had paid \$6 million to Saudi Arabia in partial settlement of what Riyadh sees as payment in arrears of \$46 million since 1986 and had offered to pay interest on the balance until the issue had been resolved.

"We have asked Saudi authorities to reopen the oil pipeline (closed since Sept. 19) to Jordan because this issue concerns Jordanian people and

(Continued on page 5)

## Primakov optimistic of peaceful solution in Gulf

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — An envoy of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev left Iraq Saturday saying he was more hopeful of a peaceful settlement to the Gulf crisis after two days of talks with Saddam Hussein and other Iraqi leaders.

"I am not pessimistic any longer towards the prospects of a political solution for the crisis," Yevgeny Primakov told journalists at the airport before leaving for home.

Primakov, a member of Gorbachev's presidential council, did not spell out the grounds for his optimism.

Earlier, Western diplomats in Baghdad said that Iraq might release a number of Britons held at strategic and civilian sites to deter attack by U.S.-dominated multinational forces massing in the Gulf.

Iraq released nine Frenchmen Monday and four West Germans Friday but the diplomats said later that any release of Britons would be unlikely to be Saturday as earlier hoped.

The Soviet Union has backed U.N. Security Council resolutions demanding that Iraq unconditionally withdraw from Kuwait, restore the emir's ousted ruler and release detained foreigners but has also stressed the need for a political solution.

Iraq, which declared Kuwait its 19th province after sending in its troops on Aug. 2, says it will never withdraw.

But Primakov, who had talks in Jordan with His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat before arriving in Baghdad, said:

"I am greatly satisfied with the results of my talks in Baghdad with President Saddam Hussein and Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz."

The Soviet envoy repeated

Moscow's belief that Iraq should withdraw immediately from Kuwait, TASS said.

The Soviet envoy urged Saddam to respond favourably to international calls to withdraw from Kuwait, an Arab diplomatic source said.

Primakov delivered a message to Saddam from Gorbachev, but its contents were not revealed.

Primakov told Soviet journalists he would report immediately to Gorbachev about his talks here on averting war in the Middle East.

Primakov flew home with a promise from Saddam that a large number of the estimated 5,000 Soviet citizens still in Iraq would soon go home.

Soviet journalists in Baghdad said Friday Saddam told Primakov that his government had no wish to hinder their repatriation.

They include about 150 military personnel.

Diplomatic sources said Oil Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi and Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Igor Belousov agreed in talks Friday night on a timetable for the departure of Soviet citizens. They gave no figures and no starting date.

Belousov, also chairman of a state commission on military-industrial issues, accompanied Primakov to Baghdad.

Many Soviet nationals in Iraq work in the oil sector.

The Soviet news agency TASS reported later that Primakov told Saddam that Moscow "favours a political settlement of the Gulf crisis, bearing in mind a return to the situation that existed before

the Soviet Union does not yet speak with one voice," Chinese Ambassador Li Daoyi told Reuters before the session began.

Farouk Kaddoumi, foreign affairs spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), told the council that unless the question of Palestine was addressed in a "serious and responsible fashion" there would never be a solution in the Middle East.

A working paper circulated by Arab states would have U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar establish a special monitoring group and submit periodic reports on ways to ensure the safety and protection of Palestinian civilians under Israeli control.

Such action might include imposing sanctions on Israel for disobeying previous resolutions demanding it withdraw from the

West Bank and Gaza Strip, he said.

"Or is there a double standard?" he asked, adding that a solution to the Gulf crisis had to be linked to a solution of the Palestinian problem.

Yemen first asked for the meeting on Sept. 28 shortly after Israel demolished more than 30 shops and houses in the Gaza Strip refugee camp of Bureij.

In rebuttal, Israeli Ambassador Saleh Al Ashtal predicted that because of the measures taken against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait, the body would have to deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Three Arabs suspected of assisting the Israeli authorities were killed in the last two days in the occupied territories by their fellow Palestinians, Arab and Israeli reports said Saturday.

The French proposal, aired by President Francois Mitterrand, calls for comprehensive talks over all key Middle East issues after Iraq withdraws its forces from Kuwait.

## Fahd 'waiting to see if sanctions work'

JEDDAH (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu Saturday he was waiting to see whether U.N. economic sanctions can force Iraq to leave Kuwait, Kaifu's spokesman said.

"Iraq's invasion of Kuwait is a problem that affects basic principles of international society," Fahd was quoted as telling Kaifu.

"I am waiting to see the effect of the economic sanctions," the Saudi monarch said.

King Fahd also thanked Japan

for its \$4 billion package of aid for states affected by the economic blockade and support for the multinational forces deploying in the Gulf region.

"I thank you from my heart, not only from a humanitarian point of view, but also because this strengthens Japan's standing in the international community," Kaifu said.

"The settlement of the Kuwaiti crisis on this basis should give an impetus to the settlement of other conflicts in the region, above all the Arab-Israeli conflict," TASS quoted Primakov as saying.

Primakov met three times during his stay with Arafat, who was also visiting Baghdad, and agreed to link the Gulf crisis to other conflicts in the Middle East.

In a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, he outlined a four-stage plan for comprehensive peace in the region.

France, which had signalled an independent approach to the Gulf crisis in the initial days after Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2, reacted dramatically to reports of an Iraqi intrusion into the French embassy in Kuwait and sent 4,000 troops and armour to Saudi Arabia to join the multinational force. Earlier, the French involvement was limited to naval forces in the Gulf; Iraq subsequently expressed regret over the embassy intrusion.

"We've had extensive consultations with the Congress on every aspect of the Persian Gulf situation. We have had meetings after meeting and talk after talk... but there have been no meetings that were called just to discuss the use of force," White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater was responding to questions about a report that Bush had

## Rocard: France no party to war, will veto resolution

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

PARIS — France will not be a party to a war in the Gulf and will veto any United Nations Security Council resolution approving the use of force to end the Gulf crisis, French Prime Minister Michel Rocard said Saturday, informed sources said.

The sources said the French prime minister was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions

## Waite, other Western hostages to be freed soon, Beirut paper says

BEIRUT (AP) — Missing Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite will "top" an undisclosed number of Western hostages to be released in Lebanon next week, Lebanon's leading newspaper said Saturday.

The prestigious Al Nahar attributed the front page report to unnamed informed sources.

The report said Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was to visit the Syrian capital of Damascus "in the next two days for consultations with the Syrian command" of President Hafez Al Assad.

Velayati, the sources said, "might travel to Beirut for talks with President Elias Hrawi and other Lebanese officials."

Syria, with 40,000 peacekeeping troops deployed in Lebanon since 1976, is the main power broker in Lebanon.

Iran is the main backer of Hezbollah (Party of God), the umbrella for underground factions holding most of the 13 Western captives missing in Lebanon, including four Britons.

"The release of a number of foreign hostages held in Lebanon, topped by Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, is possible next week," Al Nahar quoted the informed sources as saying. It did not elaborate.

Al Nahar has proven reliable in the past in its reports on the hostages.

The one-paragraph reference to the "hostages" issue was part of the paper's main story which also

said Velayati was to work out with Syrian and Lebanese leaders a settlement to the three-year-old bloody power struggle between Hezbollah and the mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia which has killed more than 1,000 people.

Hussein Musawi, the Shi'ite mentor of some hostage-holding factions, said Sept. 29 that the four British hostages would be freed from the recently restored diplomatic ties between Britain and Tehran.

However, Musawi said the six American captives were not expected to be released soon due to the American military deployment in the Gulf region.

A flurry of reports about the possible release of British hostages has followed the restoration of British-Iranian ties after a rupture of 18 months over British author Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses."

"Improving relations and the new British conduct towards Iran would serve British interests in general, including the British hostages," said Musawi, whose Islamic Amal movement is part of the Hizbollah umbrella.

Waite, 51, a personal emissary of Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, disappeared Jan. 20, 1987, after leaving his hotel in west Beirut for a meeting with Islamic Jihad, the underground faction believed to hold American hostages Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland.

Waite's group has claimed Waite's abduction, but former Irish hos-

tage Brian Keenan, released in August, said he was held with the Anglican envoy for a while in the same house.

Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, is the longest-held among the 13 Western captives in Lebanon, Anderson, 42, of Lorain, Ohio, was kidnapped March 16, 1985.

In addition to Waite, the British captives are journalist John McCarthy, World War II flier Jack Mann and writer Alec Collett.

McCarthy, 33, of Barnet, North London, was kidnapped April 17, 1986, as he drove to Beirut airport to catch a flight to London.

Mann, 76, was kidnapped in Beirut May 12, 1989. Collett, a New York-based writer on assignment in Lebanon for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, was kidnapped March 25, 1985.

The Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims claimed April 23, 1986 it hanged Collett in retaliation for Britain's support of the U.S. air raids on Libya earlier that month.

The group released a videotape purportedly showing Collett, then 63, dangling from a scaffold. No body has been found, but British officials believe Collett is dead.

The Western captives held mainly by pro-Iranian factions in Lebanon also include two West Germans and an Italian.

## Qadhafi welcomes German unity

ROME (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has told German leaders he hopes the unification of Germany will lead to the "removal" of the state of Israel, official Libyan media have reported.

The division of Germany, the building of the horrific Berlin Wall and the establishment of the Jewish state over the land of Palestine were arrangements that must be finished together as they were established together for the same excuses," Qadhafi told German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in a letter, the Libyan news agency Jana reported.

"Hope has become big (for) the removal of the Jewish state and the establishment of a democratic Palestinian state after the ending of the division of Germany and the arrangements that followed it," the English-language Jana dispatch quoted Qadhafi as saying.

He did not elaborate. Germany was divided into military zones after World War II by the victorious powers, and the Soviet zone became East Germany. Israel was created in 1948 under a United Nations plan to divide Palestine into an Arab and Jewish state.

The Libyan leader added that he was "joyed personally and especially more than any other official in the world by the German Unity."

"The unity of your country represents a model and an incentive for the fragmented Arab Nation," he said.

## Iraq has capability for high-explosive weapon — Pentagon

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Iraq has the technical capability to produce a high-explosive conventional bomb or missile warhead with a potentially devastating blast, the U.S. Defense Department said Friday.

But defense officials said the United States was not sure whether Baghdad had stockpiled such arms, and they denied a published report that blast could be equivalent to a small tactical nuclear explosion over an area several kilometres wide.

The statements came in reaction to a Los Angeles Times newspaper report Friday that Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air" explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defense officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defense experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defense officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles.

But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them on Saudi oil facilities.

The minister said that the United States was not sure whether Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air" explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defense officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defense experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defense officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles.

But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them on Saudi oil facilities.

The minister said that the United States was not sure whether Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air" explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defense officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defense experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defense officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles.

But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them on Saudi oil facilities.

The minister said that the United States was not sure whether Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air" explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defense officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defense experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defense officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles.

But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them on Saudi oil facilities.

The minister said that the United States was not sure whether Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air" explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defense officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defense experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defense officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles.

But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them on Saudi oil facilities.

The minister said that the United States was not sure whether Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air" explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defense officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defense experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defense officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles.

But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them on Saudi oil facilities.

The minister said that the United States was not sure whether Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air" explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defense officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defense experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defense officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles.

But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them

## Shbeihat asks for arming people, preparing for defence

By Sana Atiyeh

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Lower House of Parliament member Laith Shbeihat Saturday appealed to the government to adopt measures to arm Jordanian citizens in order to repel them to counter any aggression against Jordan.

Speaking at a press conference in his office, Shbeihat, an independent Islamist, said he presented a memorandum last week to Prime Minister Mudar Badran and members of the House to adopt what he described as a parliamentary initiative to arm the people and to establish a province-wide-scale popular resistance.

Shbeihat, who won a seat in the 1984 parliamentary elections in Jordan into a jungle of rebels in his brother Iraq, where six million people — one third of the government population — carry arms.

Shbeihat intends to run for the Lower House speakership on Nov. 17 when Parliament is due to reopen its regular session. The speaker ran as an independent Islamist candidate in last November's elections which eventually he presented his votes from both the Muslim Brotherhood and leftist organisations both inside and outside Parliament.

The deputy stated in his memo to the prime minister that one million of the 3.5 million Jordanians must be allowed to carry eight weapons and "organise in a rugged wide-scale popular resistance, complementing the People's Army and supporting our armed forces."

Since the U.S.-led Western coalition began in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf, the Jordanian population had expressed at pro-

democracy rallies and demonstrations the desire for being allowed to carry arms to defend Jordan and to a flag should a Western or Israeli aggression occur.

Shbeihat indicated in his memo to Badran that if the prime minister did not act on this proposal, the Lower House may have to

## Red Crescent Society to channel aid for Japanese

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Red Crescent Society (JRCS) and the Iraqi Red Crescent Society discussed in Amman Saturday arrangements for receiving and distributing medical and food supplies sent by the Japanese Red Cross to Japanese nationals living in Iraq.

Discussions were conducted by officials from both sides led by JRCS President Dr. Ahmad Abu Qura and his Iraqi counterpart Ameed Khaled, who also tackled issues related to the accommodation of evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait.

Khaled discussed with Abu Qura the prospect of setting up a new evacuee camp near the southern Iraqi port of Basra, to reduce the number of evacuees crossing into Jordan.

Meanwhile the Egyptian government voiced appreciation to Jordan for efforts made to alleviate the suffering of Egyptian evacuees crossing into Jordan from Iraq on their way home.

### HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Ministry issues rules for patients' transfer

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Health Sunday issued a set of regulations concerning the transfer of patients from government hospitals to the King Hussein Medical Centre. According to regulations, cases that can be transferred from hospitals to the King Hussein Medical Centre include: heart conditions including transplants and implants of pace makers, kidney problems and kidney treatment, cases related to orthopaedics and optics, including lens implants, and complicated cases requiring intensive therapy. The ministry said that as of Oct. 2 directors of government hospitals have been empowered to refer cases of these types to the King Hussein Medical Centre.

#### WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

#### EXHIBITIONS

- Open studio and workshop for artist Samaa Zara displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.
- Plastic art exhibition by Jordanian artists Maha and Ahmad Al Syoud at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Plastic art exhibition by four Palestinian artists depicting the suffering of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation at the Jordan National Gallery for Fine Arts.

## Prime Minister warns civil servants who shirk duty

AMMAN (J.T.) — Numerous government department employees and civil servants have been reported to be disregarding official office hours and failing to be on duty during hours fixed by each ministry, and if this trend continues, strict penalties will have to be imposed on those shirking duty, according to Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

In an official communiqué issued Saturday the prime minister said: "I have been informed that many employees of different ministries and public organisations are in the habit of disregarding office hours. Abiding by the fixed office hours from the start to the end reflects a civilised image about Jordan and a sense

of responsibility on the part of employees, especially under the present difficult circumstances."

He said that all government employees were called on to abide by the official office hours and he said any "laxity will be strictly dealt with in accordance with the civil service commission laws."

In another official communiqué, the prime minister said that government vehicles should be strictly used for official government business only.

The prime minister referred in his communiqué to other communiques, issued earlier this month and in the past two years, in which he urged heads of government departments to take extra care in directing the use of government-owned vehicles with the purpose of minimising consumption of fuel.

He said that all heads of departments were to see to it that special arrangements were made to reduce the use of means of transport at their disposal to carry out several official tasks to a limited number of cars and to keep strict control over the use of fuel for vehicles so as to cut down on fuel consumption.

The communiqué requested various departments to submit to the prime minister's office regular and periodical reports about following up these directives.

## Treatment of cancer in Jordan — a long way to go

By Jounane Halasa

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan, which leads the Arab World in advanced medicine — including open heart surgery and in vitro fertilisation — strongly lags behind in the field of cancer treatment. It is high time that a national effort were undertaken to bring more focus on treating cancer patients in the country, forestalling what has become perennial problems, including personal and professional rivalry, which are blamed for the failure of previous moves.

This is the opinion of doctors, officials and social workers alike.

"It is more of a combination of the decades-old stigma attached to cancer," said a social worker. "People in this part of the world are not willing to discuss cancer as freely as they would discuss any other disease simply because the widely-shared belief is that if you have cancer then you are dead sooner than later; so, few people go to local doctors. Instead they prefer to travel outside if they can afford to do so."

According to Dr. Abdulla Al Khatib, president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), a conservative estimate puts at 3,000 the average annual number of cancer patients in Jordan. "Unfortunately, Jordan doesn't have the facilities, equipment and experts to work as a team to treat cancer," said Khatib. "Indeed there are a few doctors who are really good in treating cancer but they do not have support team or equipment," added Khatib, one of many Jordanians who have been working ardently over the past several years to set up a cancer treatment centre in Amman.

"There is an awareness of the situation among the people of the pressing need to set up a specialised facility to treat cancer in Jordan, but somehow this awareness does not translate into real action," he said. Khatib lamented the fact that "here people refer to cancer as the end of the human being."

"Why should it be so here while the approach of the advanced countries is so totally realistic and practical to cancer and treatment of the disease?" he asked. "Isn't it now well known that cancer is not incurable?"

While conceding that such awareness is a long-term process, Dr. Khatib also argued that Jordan does not have a comprehensive approach to cancer treatment. "For example, one has to go to Al Bashir Hospital for radiotherapy, the

King Hussein medical Centre for chemotherapy and any hospital for surgery," he said. "But the sad fact is that there are few qualified and experienced doctors who can successfully perform a cancer surgery," he asserted. Leaving malignant tissue could be very dangerous in the long term."

Several doctors agree with this argument. "There is a multitude of surgeons who say they can and have performed successful cancer surgeries, but many patients that I have come across say that they do not have enough trust in Jordanian doctors," said a leading physician who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"It is strange that Jordanian patients, who have no qualms whatsoever in approaching Jordanian doctors for open heart surgeries, balk when it comes to cancer," he said. Dr. Farah strongly argues that "qualification and dedication should be the parameters in choosing the right people for the job."

"What we should have is a team with basic qualifications," he said. "But, more importantly, efficiency, dedication and team spirit should govern the process."

"The quest for reputation and prestige should not be the motivation of anyone to enter the field of medicine," Dr. Farah said.

The typical social approach to cancer in Jordan was very much evident in a few interviews conducted by the Jordan Times. Everyone insisted that they not be identified by name.

A 45-year-old mother of four said that "a very few intimate members of my family know that I am under treatment for cancer."

The woman recalled that it was a Jordanian doctor who advised her to go abroad for further check up and treatment. "I have been facing numerous psychological problems whenever I went to a local hospital for treatment," she said.

Another 37-year-old patient who is not affluent enough to travel outside said she had similar "psychological problems" when she started going to a local doctor for treatment. "Soon I got over them but still I do not want to admit in public that I have cancer," she told the Jordan Times. "I was also advised that I should go abroad, but I cannot afford such trips. So I have settled for local treatment."

A 47-year-old woman who underwent breast-cancer surgery abroad seven years ago said: "Cancer is not the end of life. It can be cured especially if it is discovered in early stages. But my experience is that Jordan is very much behind in the field of cancer treatment."

According to a senior doctor at the King Hussein Medical Centre, a good percentage of cancer cases that are reported in Jordan are of children — mostly leukemia and lymphoma — and "it is an area which should be given very serious consideration."

At the same time, cancer treatment is simply beyond the means of the average man in Jordan. In principle, those classified as poor are entitled

to free treatment at government hospitals and military and security personnel are treated at the King Hussein Medical Centre. But, according to Dr. Ghassan Farah, surgeon at the Jordan University Hospital, free treatment for cancer is not feasible because of the sheer costs of the medicine involved; in some cases an injection could cost as much as JD 250.

Dr. Farah is very much in support of the idea of setting up Al Amal Cancer Centre. "A patient could get all forms of treatment under one roof when the centre is set up," he said.

"We do have a good start," he said. "We have doctors, technicians and specialised nurses who only need a professional tuning up to be experts in treating cancer," he said. Dr. Farah strongly argues that "qualification and dedication should be the parameters in choosing the right people for the job."

"What we should have is a team with basic qualifications," he said. "But, more importantly, efficiency, dedication and team spirit should govern the process."

"The quest for reputation and prestige should not be the motivation of anyone to enter the field of medicine," Dr. Farah said.

The typical social approach to cancer in Jordan was very much evident in a few interviews conducted by the Jordan Times. Everyone insisted that they not be identified by name.

A 45-year-old mother of four said that "a very few intimate members of my family know that I am under treatment for cancer."

The woman recalled that it was a Jordanian doctor who advised her to go abroad for further check up and treatment. "I have been facing numerous psychological problems whenever I went to a local hospital for treatment," she said.

Another 37-year-old patient who is not affluent enough to travel outside said she had similar "psychological problems" when she started going to a local doctor for treatment. "Soon I got over them but still I do not want to admit in public that I have cancer," she told the Jordan Times. "I was also advised that I should go abroad, but I cannot afford such trips. So I have settled for local treatment."

A 47-year-old woman who underwent breast-cancer surgery abroad seven years ago said: "Cancer is not the end of life. It can be cured especially if it is discovered in early stages. But my experience is that Jordan is very much behind in the field of cancer treatment."

According to a senior doctor at the King Hussein Medical Centre, a good percentage of cancer cases that are reported in Jordan are of children — mostly leukemia and lymphoma — and "it is an area which should be given very serious consideration."

At the same time, cancer treatment is simply beyond the means of the average man in Jordan. In principle, those classified as poor are entitled



**KING RECEIVES PAKISTANI CHIEF OF STAFF:** His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received at the Royal Court Pakistani Chief of Staff Iftekhar Sirohi and an accompanying delegation.

The meeting was attended by Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb and the Pakistani Ambassador to Jordan. Sirohi and the accompanying delegation were also received by Abu Taleb at the headquarters of the armed forces. Abu Taleb and Sirohi discussed the situation in the region, scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Pakistan and issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by

several of the chief of staff's assistants, the commander of the Royal Air Force, the Pakistani ambassador and the Pakistani military attaché in Amman. Sirohi and the accompanying delegation arrived Saturday morning on a several-day official visit to Jordan during which they will meet with Jordanian officials and visit military and touristic sites in the Kingdom. The Pakistani delegation was received at the airport upon arrival by Abu Taleb, the deputy chief of staff for administrative affairs, the inspector general, the Pakistani ambassador and the Pakistani military attaché.

## Crisis averted in transport of evacuees

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Disruption in the process of transporting evacuees within Jordan was avoided this week by cash donations of \$1.5 million from Japan and the United States after Jordan's financial abilities were stretched to the maximum last week, said Mohammad Essaifi, U.N. under-secretary-general, coordinator of United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) Saturday.

Dr. Farah is very much in support of the idea of setting up Al Amal Cancer Centre. "A patient could get all forms of treatment under one roof when the centre is set up," he said.

"We do have a good start," he said. "We have doctors, technicians and specialised nurses who only need a professional tuning up to be experts in treating cancer," he said. Dr. Farah strongly argues that "qualification and dedication should be the parameters in choosing the right people for the job."

"What we should have is a team with basic qualifications," he said. "But, more importantly, efficiency, dedication and team spirit should govern the process."

"The quest for reputation and prestige should not be the motivation of anyone to enter the field of medicine," Dr. Farah said.

The typical social approach to cancer in Jordan was very much evident in a few interviews conducted by the Jordan Times. Everyone insisted that they not be identified by name.

A 45-year-old mother of four said that "a very few intimate members of my family know that I am under treatment for cancer."

The woman recalled that it was a Jordanian doctor who advised her to go abroad for further check up and treatment. "I have been facing numerous psychological problems whenever I went to a local hospital for treatment," she said.

Another 37-year-old patient who is not affluent enough to travel outside said she had similar "psychological problems" when she started going to a local doctor for treatment. "Soon I got over them but still I do not want to admit in public that I have cancer," she told the Jordan Times. "I was also advised that I should go abroad, but I cannot afford such trips. So I have settled for local treatment."

A 47-year-old woman who underwent breast-cancer surgery abroad seven years ago said: "Cancer is not the end of life. It can be cured especially if it is discovered in early stages. But my experience is that Jordan is very much behind in the field of cancer treatment."

According to a senior doctor at the King Hussein Medical Centre, a good percentage of cancer cases that are reported in Jordan are of children — mostly leukemia and lymphoma — and "it is an area which should be given very serious consideration."

At the same time, cancer treatment is simply beyond the means of the average man in Jordan. In principle, those classified as poor are entitled

As a result of the appeal, the government of Japan decided to donate \$1 million to the transport effort. The U.S. in turn donated an additional \$0.5 million and Essaifi said that he presented Samah Hamad, chairman of the evacuees affairs committee, with a cheque for \$1.5 million Friday.

He said he expected to present another cheque for \$400,000 from the Canadian government before the end of this week.

Essaifi said that if the departure of the evacuees continued at the present rate all those finding themselves in Jordan now and the 80,000 evacuees expected to enter Jordan within the next week should have left Jordan by the end of October.

"If the present rate of arrivals and the forecast of arrivals is maintained, and if the departure rate is stepped up, the exercise of evacuation would be over by the end of October," Essaifi told reporters.

At the rate of 8,000 departures per day and if climatic conditions remain as they are, Essaifi said that the situation is

"manageable."

He added that in all matters, except possibly in accelerating the movement of the evacuation, all are doing their best. "But this is conditional upon the present system continuing... if there is a worsening of the situation in Iraq and Kuwait, we may expect an increase in the flow of evacuees, particularly Egyptian nationals of which there are still 1 million in Iraq," Essaifi said.

The under-secretary general said that because the situation was unpredictable all the concerned parties would have to engage in contingency planning.

Of the \$35 million that UNDRO has mobilised since the beginning of September to relieve the evacuees \$28 million have already been received. The donor list was headed by Japan who pledged to give \$20 million, followed by Sweden \$7 million, Germany \$3 million, Denmark \$2 million, Austria \$1 million, U.S. \$1 million, Italy \$0.5 million and Canada \$0.4 million.

**Syrian mediation helps lift Saudi ban on Jordanian trucks**

## Jordanian produce to be sold in Gulf markets again

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian crops are once again finding their way to the Gulf countries via Saudi Arabia now that Riyadh has lifted a ban on Jordanian lorries and refrigerated trucks crossing its territory, heading towards Gulf states.

However no Jordanian trucks are allowed to take crops or other Jordanian products for sale to Saudi cities and contacts are underway to try to reach agreement with Saudi Arabia on all matters related to transit operations.

According to a government statement Thursday, Prime Minister Mudar Badran had mediated with Saudi Arabia to allow Jordanian trucks to pass through its territory on their way

## Excavations unearth artefacts

IRBID (Petra) — Excavations conducted at the ancient archaeological site of Yasilah, east of the northern city of Irbid, have revealed ancient tombs dating back to the Roman and Byzantine eras, mosaic floors and a Byzantine church as well as a great deal of old coins used in that period, according to an announcement by the Department of Antiquities.

The artefacts unearthed at the site underline the fact that the region maintained strong commercial relations

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily, published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation  
Established 1974

جordan Times جريدة عربية مستقلة تصدر باللغة الإنجليزية

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

## Steps to reconsider

SAUDI ARABIA and Turkey are putting some formidable obstacles in the way of some 12,000 Jordanian trucks and are in league to prevent them from doing their trade. When one speaks of 12,000 trucks, one must multiply that number by five to get the full picture of the impact of the damage that is being done to Jordanians. The two countries are in effect trying to strangle Jordan in a rather coordinated way that appears to have been orchestrated and directed somewhere else. But Jordan still has some cards to play in this nasty game. It could reciprocate the treatment by refusing admission to any land transport heading to or from these two countries till they begin to treat Jordan fairly again. Riyadh's hampering of Jordanian trucks crossing into Saudi territory came in the wake of its decision to halt oil shipment to Jordan through the Tapline and the expulsion of our diplomats from Saudi Arabia. There is only one way to interpret this string of economic and diplomatic measures and that is to penalise Jordan for painstakingly trying to avoid a major conflagration in the Gulf region which could involve the entire area.

The Saudis should realise that weakening Jordan will not serve their aims or their security, now or later. They should remember that Jordanians and our brethren in the occupied territories will not easily forgive those who intend to weaken their position in the face of Israeli threats and the influx of hundreds of thousands of Jews from the Soviet Union and elsewhere. Jordan truly and genuinely believes it is defending the Arab Nation and its resources in the Gulf and in Saudi Arabia through its principled and sound stand that calls for the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Gulf and an Arab solution to the crisis. The Kingdom has said and reaffirmed that it does not recognise the occupation nor annexation of Kuwait, and that it abides by Security Council resolutions and strives to ensure a negotiated settlement, not only for the Gulf conflict, but also other conflicts in the region. Likewise, Jordan urges our Saudi brothers to resort to the maintenance of civilised relations based, like they have always been, on mutual respect, brotherhood and understanding. The Saudis are thus urged to open dialogue with Jordan and to air their grievances rather than opt for unfriendly measures.

No matter what the result of the Gulf crisis might be, Jordanians and Saudis will always be neighbours and will always fight for the same causes. Sadly at the moment Jordanians here and Palestinians across the bridge feel a great deal betrayed by their Saudi brothers. Sentiments are running high, but thanks to a wise leadership there is still ample hope that the present crisis in relations between the two countries will soon be contained for the benefit of all.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL Ra'i daily on Saturday described British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's call for an international conference to deal with the Middle East question and his criticism of Israel's inhuman practices in the occupied Arab lands as a welcome development. But, the paper said, that in trying to link the Gulf crisis with the Palestine question Hurd has followed a reverse pattern in that he insisted on an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait before such conference on the Middle East could take place. Hurd also claimed in his statement that the Gulf crisis delayed action to solve the Palestine problem, which is totally untrue since the Palestine problem has been outstanding for more than 23 years, long before the Gulf crisis and the international community did nothing to end it, the paper noted. It said that the United States and the Western alliance had helped Israel hold on to the occupied Arab territories instead of forcing it to abandon them, and Washington has been obstructing the convening of an international conference to bring to an end the Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper noted. It said that Iraq has not put forth a condition for an end to the problems of the Middle East and has called for a simultaneous withdrawal from Palestine and Kuwait. But putting forth his ideas, Hurd has indirectly linked the Gulf crisis with the Palestine question, but, said the paper, he failed to call for an immediate Israeli withdrawal and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday calls on the government not to wait for more promises of aid to the national economy but to take immediate steps to prepare the country for a long period of steadfastness, and to adopt measures enabling the Kingdom to offset the consequences of the sanctions imposed on Iraq and adversely affecting the Jordanian economy. Fahed Al Fanek also says that the Jordanian government, which has received only promises of aid, should divert the thousands of evacuees towards Saudi Arabia where they can be repatriated more easily and where the weather is warm enough in winter, unlike that in Jordan in the coming months. The writer says since the outbreak of the Gulf crisis, Jordan received promises from Germany, and Japan but not a single penny has been sent to the Jordanian treasury despite Jordan's demand of a \$2.2 billion in compensation for its huge losses. The United States has been giving Jordan empty promises about aid, trying to gain more time and hoping to pressure Jordan in succumbing to its own will and fall in line with those countries participated in the American-led invasion in confrontation with Iraq, the writer notes. He says that the government should take measures aimed at offsetting the current difficulties and dealing with any eventualities.

## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# Political, economic pressures strain the economy

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

WHEN the Gulf crisis erupted two months ago, the Jordanian economy was performing beautifully in accordance with the economic adjustment programme recommended by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Actual performance in several areas exceeded the targets set forth in the programme, especially when it came to controlling inflation, reducing deficit in both the budget and the balance of payments, rebuilding of the Central Bank's reserves, stabilising the exchange rate, and restoring confidence as a prelude to starting new investments.

This is not to deny that the Jordanian economy was still in a difficult position. The standard of living in 1990 was almost 40 per cent below the level which had prevailed three years earlier, before the foreign debt crisis of 1988.

The Gulf crisis took the

Jordanian economy by surprise. The crisis erupted at a time when the Kingdom's economy was going in the right direction despite the difficult circumstances. It was in bad need of financial support. Unemployment was already at a worrying level of 20 per cent (15.6 per cent is the official figure).

Under the Gulf crisis, the Jordanian economy was dealt a painful blow in all its major sources of foreign exchange, namely Arab aid, expatriates' remittances, and proceeds of exports of goods and services. It is only natural that the economic planners should tackle the new critical situation with new economic and financial policies and measures to absorb the shock and minimise the negative impact.

One example is oil. Its international price rose by over 100 per cent, and Saudi Arabia

decided to cut oil supplies to Jordan. Observers thought that the government will immediately do something about it. The government formally denied any intention to raise the price of fuel, or to ration its distribution. This attitude suggested that the government will only watch the development and hope that something will suddenly happen to save the economy, an attitude we experienced when the economic crisis of 1988 was building up.

The government is said to have formed five specialised committees to deal with five major issues such as unemployment and food security, in order to recommend courses of action. But the move is very slow. So far no urgent measures have been taken to protect the thin reserve of foreign exchange from depletion or to improve its allocation.

The government is said to be reluctant to take dramatic measures in order to avoid panic among the people. Citizens know well that our position has a price which should be paid and tolerated willingly. No one will blame the government; we know that we are targeted in order to suppress our national will.

Two weeks ago the minister of finance quantified to the press the direct losses of the Jordanian economy, resulting from the Gulf crisis and the application of economic sanctions. The huge losses scared the private sector.

In fact, losses listed by the minister represented the worst case scenario. That is, if Jordan did not receive any financial compensation, and the government did not take measures to minimise the losses, and businessmen in the private sector took things for granted

and did not do anything about it to avoid or reduce their losses and explore new opportunities.

By now the whole world is totally convinced that Jordan is the main victim of the situation, and that it should be compensated in accordance with Article 50 of the U.N. Charter.

However, so far nothing has been received, and only DM 200 million were committed by Germany. At writing time, we did not know if the current visit of the Japanese prime minister will end up with another definite commitment of urgent aid.

Two weeks ago, the sanctions committee of the Security Council was about to take a decision to compensate Jordan, but under American pressure, the decision was delayed. Obviously, the U.S. would like to take advantage of Jordan's urgency to extract

political concessions.

This American position is hard to understand. The government of Jordan has already pledged to abide by the U.N. resolutions. The Jordanian people continues to be free and will not be influenced by economic temptation or deprivation because its position is a matter of principle.

The negative impact of the crisis on the Jordanian economy is real and substantial, but it is manageable, partially through receiving compensation, and partially through adaptation of our affairs to the new set of circumstances.

The first losers will be the international creditors who should not expect receiving interest nor principal until after the basic needs of the people have priority over the creditors' in the allocation of our foreign exchange's tight budget.

## War in Gulf could kill world economies

By Christopher Flavin

WASHINGTON — It is doubtful that American policymakers fully comprehend the scale of the risk involved in a war with Iraq. It is not just thousands of lives that are at stake but the world economy as well.

Even full use of the world's strategic oil reserves could not make up for the losses that would result from a major disruption of Saudi supplies. Moreover, these reserves are limited and could be exhausted in six months if they had to be used at their maximum rate.

Not even at the start of World War II was the world economy on the line the way it is now. Today, national economies are more intertwined and everyone is far more dependent on oil.

The developing countries and East European nations face the most serious financial risks. They are in no shape to pay doubled oil import bills. A series of defaults could cascade through the world banking system.

The basis for this pessimism is a realistic appraisal of a war's effect on oil markets.

If hostile words from Saddam Hussein could send prices soaring towards \$40 a barrel, imagine what a few well-placed rockets in the Saudi oil fields could do. Prices as high as \$60 to \$80 a barrel are likely, depending on the scale of the war.

Already, oil costs about \$38 a barrel, more than double the level of three months ago. During the Iranian revolution of 1979 it took 14 months for oil prices to double. Given a continuing shortage of light crude oil, prices may continue rising as the winter heating season approaches.

The problem is that Saudi Arabia's oil fields are now pumping more than seven million barrels of oil a day — one-third of the oil traded on the world market. These fields are in the middle of the area of conflict.

Iraq has some of its most battle-ready armoured divisions and an array of short- and medium-range missiles within a few hundred miles of much of the Saudi oil infrastructure. Other major oil exporters such as Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are only a short distance farther south.

Such facilities are hard to defend. And any sort of attack, particularly one involving chemically armed missiles, could frighten off Saudi Arabia's 300,000 expatriate oil-field workers, causing production to be wise not to count on it.

Iraq's military has had a month and a half to prepare for war, dispersing planes and missiles and hardening defences. The 430,000 troops and 3,500 tanks in southern Iraq and Kuwait have moved into fortified positions from which they would be hard to dislodge.

Iraq's military leaders have experience with bloody wars of attrition, and they would have the incomparable advantage of fighting for and on their homeland. The United States faces the uncomfortable reality that the oil facilities it seeks to protect could be among the first casualties of war.

It was not, of course, just a ruthless dictator that got us into this spot. A failed energy policy, shortsighted attempts to play Middle Eastern politics and a series of diplomatic blunders played roles as well.

These errors cannot be reversed by a military strike. The enormous stakes demand we exhaust all diplomatic options before taking irreversible military steps — The New York Times.

## Why Arabs support Saddam

By Ghada Karmi

I, like many Arabs who have known and admired Sir James Craig over the years, can have no doubt that the concern he expressed in the last issue of Middle East International over Arab support for Saddam Hussein during the Gulf crisis was a genuine expression of his disappointment and incomprehension. I have long respected his erudition and insight into Arab affairs and was saddened to read of his dilemma about his issue. And yet, it is reflected by my own as a Palestinian Arab. How do I convey our point of view to his and to our other Western friends without compromising our longstanding friendship with them? For the Gulf crisis has exploded old assumptions and exposed long held misconceptions for all of us. Nevertheless, we who sympathise with the views that Sir James finds so incomprehensible and regrettable must preserve our links across the political divide by communicating and explaining why we feel as we do. Perhaps this article can help towards that necessary dialogue.

It seems to me that right from the start of the Gulf crisis there have been some fundamental fallacies in the West's perception of the Arab position. Nowhere has this been clearer than in the almost wilful Western misrepresentation of Arab support for Iraq as enthusiasm and approval of the person of Saddam Hussein himself. It apparently seeks to imply that the Arabs were either so foolish or irresponsible as to have forgiven him for his "bloody" misdeeds. The inevitable and logical question has been posed by Western friends and foes alike: how could any Arab opt to live under Saddam's tyranny, and would not the rule of any Gulf Sheikh, however

feudal, be better? The conflict in the Gulf has been portrayed over here as a war between the civilised (Western) world and the barbaric personality of one man. Seen thus, how could any civilised person fail to back the right side?

The second fallacy is to regard the mass popular response in the Arab World as being of a different order of validity from that of the Arab governments. In Western perceptions, the response of ordinary Arab people to the crisis, whether in occupied Palestine, Jordan, Syria or Algeria, has been differentiated from that pro-Western ("right thinking") Arab governments. It has been devalued as either ignorantly naive, irrelevant or simply wrong. The official pro-West, anti-Saddam stance of these governments is regarded as the only valid response in the current situation, even though these same governments have long been criticised in the West for their lack of democratic representation. It is hard to escape the conclusion that their current respectability in the West is due only to their acquiescence in Western strategy over Iraq.

But of course, as Sir James points out, it is not only ordinary Arabs who support Iraq, but also people who should know better — intellectuals, many of them familiar with Western values as well. While he can dismiss popular Arab reactions as incomprehensible but essentially misguided, the apparent support of this group for Saddam is far more serious. And he is right to a degree: if Western criteria are used to define the situation, it must follow that the only rational course for such people is to support Western friends of the Arabs in their opposition to Saddam. And herein lies the third fallacy: the expectation that Arabs will automatically accept the West's

version of their situation and agree trustingly in its prescription for their future well-being.

The fact is that Arab support for Saddam is a complex phenomenon. At one level, it is not the man himself whom Arabs support, but what he symbolises: a steadfast resistance to Western imperialism. No matter what his actual intentions were in initiating recent events, nor what his personal characteristics or past history have been, he has in effect thrown down a gauntlet to the most powerful state on earth. For the Arabs, it is not the issue of Iraq's invasion which is important, nor Saddam's ultimate aims, whatever they might be, but the sheer fact of his apparently fearless stand against the might of the Western world. This, to a people long humiliated, controlled, and dictated to by Western powers, is like balm to an open wound. Their support for Saddam is a measure, not of their foolishness, but of their perceptions of the West's callous disregard and exploitation of the Arab World.

**Smokescreen of indignation**  
The Arabs do not see this as a conflict about international law and the need to stop a tyrant in his tracks. Western hypocrisy with regard to both of these objectives is too well known for such aims to be taken seriously. The West, which has condoned the invasion of Grenada and Panama, the occupation of the West Bank, and supported Pol Pot and Pinochet, presume to moralise to the Arabs over Saddam Hussein? The Arab World sees it instead as a flagrant example of imperialist arrogance in which the U.S. has intervened in the region to protect its own interests and to ensure the flow of cheap oil behind a smokescreen of international moral indignation over Saddam. And in that sense, Arabs see Saddam more as sinned against than sinning. While the Arab

make is that Waigel has not been forceful enough about cutting spending, including subsidies to Berlin and the former border areas.

Waigel, a lawyer by training, has been steadfast on a pillar of the centre-right government's re-election programme: "We will not raise taxes to finance unity."

"But the exclusion should be limited to unity," Waigel said recently, hinting that an escalation of the Gulf crisis could force Bonn to break its promise and boost taxes.

SPD campaigners and some economists say Bonn will renege on its promise not to raise taxes after the Dec. 2 election. If it does, Waigel will be the one facing the most criticism.

"Although if they do raise taxes it won't hurt Waigel's reputation too much. Everyone knows the costs are enormous," said Warren Oliver, economist at UBS Phillips and Drew.

Waigel has surprised many who

feel the bricklayer's son lacked

the prowess to take charge of

Europe's biggest economy.



He ingratiated himself in Bonn by holding an occasional "bierfest," something unthinkable during the reign of his cool predecessor Gerhard Stoltenberg. He won the markets' favour by revealing an unpopular withholding tax just weeks after he replaced Stoltenberg, the tax's architect.

Most recently he won new respect in London by supporting Britain and the Bundesbank who want to slow progress towards European monetary union.

Time put him at odds with Genscher, who wants Bonn to forge ahead with European unity on all fronts. Diplomats here expect Genscher to win while the economists say Waigel will prevail.

Waigel has also crossed swords with Helmut Haussmann, the Free Democrat heading the economics ministry who proposed making Eastern Germany a "low tax area" to promote investment without consulting first with the finance ministry.

"It is clear Waigel believes, and I think correctly, that he is the stronger of the two," Walter said of this dispute.

ON Oct. 4, 1990 your newspaper published, on page 7, an article dealing with economic situation in Yugoslavia. The article's title is "Belgrade faces problems as inflation resurges."

I would like to bring your attention to the following article's sentence: "Markovic has devalued the Yugoslav dinar by 10,000 times, pinned its value to the Deutschemark," which represents a mistake, because the Yugoslav government, on Dec. 18, 1989, didn't devalue Yugoslav dinar by 10,000 times but denominated the Yugoslav currency by 10,000 times. This is a big and substantial difference.

I would kindly ask you to inform your readers about the mistake which was published in the article, mentioned above.

Marcel Kopril  
General Director  
Yugoslav Chamber of Economy  
Middle East Office  
Amman.

## Master engineer works on anchoring island

By Katia Sabet

CAIRO — In keeping with the great works of his pharaonic ancestors, expert engineer Mohamed Baligh is pushing the frontiers of the possible: his latest project is to build the longest suspension bridge in the world. Linking the island of Sicily, at the south-western tip of the Italian boot, to the mainland, the bridge would span the Messina Straits over 3.4 km.

For Sicily's 5.12 million inhabitants who have had to rely on erratic ferries and unpredictable airfare schedules to reach the continent, the bridge is an old dream few thought would become reality.

With a team of international experts, Baligh is using previous research he completed to plan the bridge. Youthful-looking at 47, he has come a long way since he arrived to study at the United States' most famous scientific and engineering college — the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston. With a meager stipend of \$217 a month, he found the going tough. "It was a time of great austerity in Egypt, and it was impossible to take hard currency out of the country," Baligh recalled in a recent interview. "I'll never forget those first few months in the U.S. Not only was money a problem, but so was

the language!"

Being a graduate of the engineering college at Cairo University, Baligh was no greenhorn, but he found American teaching methods very different. For example, "it was much more theoretical than the education I had received in Cairo," he said. Undeterred, he crammed as many classes as he could possibly fit into his schedule and at 26 earned a master's degree, first his

second half of his doctorate has had many applications in modern physics, especially as it relates to work on the ocean floor. He studied, for example, the effects of deep boring into the earth's crust and developed an instrument called the "Piezocene" that gives a very precise measurement of the nature and resistance of the ground. This instrument is now standard equipment in ocean-bed exploration.

Baligh went on to a job with a private company called "S Cube," which stands for the three initials of "Systems, Science and Software." Explained the engineer: "This company worked for the (U.S.) Defense Department studying vibrations from the Soviet Union in order to distinguish between a nuclear explosion and an earthquake. The Soviets were using a system by which they would detonate atomic bombs in the crevice of a geological fault line. On our seismographs, it looked very much like an earthquake."

Although Baligh was offered a salary increase by S Cube, he could not turn down an offer from MIT for a job as associate professor of civil engineering, although the pay was only half of what he earned — "I was back to doing what I really loved: research and study." Named assistant professor within three years,

he was aiming higher, at tenure as permanent faculty member. "I was up against the toughest part of MIT's recruitment system," he recalled. "You have to prove that after teaching for six years you have reached a sufficiently high level of acclaim through your work, research and publications."

Baligh had to gather 28 letters of recommendation from the highest experts in the world in his field. The years go by fast when, on top of doing research, which is expensive, you have to find sponsors for scientific projects, he said. Then writing up your findings and publishing also takes time. Another hurdle is that "at MIT, all the professors have their in-house protégés, and I came from another institution. It was tough, especially since only 25 per cent of candidates are accepted. But I had set that goal for myself, and I got there." In the past 10 years Baligh has generated and managed more than \$2 million of sponsored research from U.S. government agencies and private industry, and he has over 100 publications to his credit. He also earned the 1987 James Croes Medal, which is considered one of the two highest awards of the American Society of Civil Engineers, as well as the prestigious British Palmer Prize.

Having recently perfected his Piezocene on a project in Venezuela, he used it on the Norway project to gather vital information about the nature of the soil, metre by metre as they bore 200m down.

Unchanged by success, he lives with his young wife and two teenage children in a tastefully decorated but unpretentious apartment in Cairo. One of his complaints is that his work often takes him abroad. Wherever oil exploration teams are probing the ocean bed he is often called to help set up off-shore oil rigs: his assignments include the Arctic, the coast of Venezuela, and the North Sea. Near Norway he helped build what amounted to a small city standing on pillars 40 metres above the high sea. "It was 200m long, a real artificial island the size of two soccer fields. We had to sink foundations 200m into the ground, added to which the surface of the sea bed was covered with soft clay deposits 8m thick," he explained.

Having recently perfected his Piezocene on a project in Venezuela, he used it on the Norway project to gather vital information about the nature of the soil, metre by metre as they bore 200m down.

Baligh is using his instrument again in the study of the Messina Straight project. "Several plans are being considered," he noted. "The most ambitious is to have the bridge suspended by two pylons only. The other more classical options have four, six, or eight pylons. My job is to study

the ocean bed close to shore, and also in mid-sea to give the builders the clearest possible picture of what to anticipate."

Another feat of engineering considered by Baligh is linking Egypt to Saudi Arabia over the Gulf of Aqaba. Stretching from the east coast of Sinai some 22km across the arm of the Red Sea to Saudi Arabia, the bridge would



After teaching at the U.S.' most prestigious scientific and engineering school, Egypt's Mohamed Baligh is making plans for a bridge between Italy and Sicily and another one between Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

## Two-day weekend announced

(Continued from page 1)

the steadfastness of this nation and its army," Badran told reporters. "But we have not received any answer yet."

Saudi Arabia supplied 660,000 barrels of oil to Jordan in September as part of a one-million-barrel supply before switching off the pipeline on Sept. 19. It cited what it said was non-payment of \$40 million in oil bills since 1986 and \$6 million since January this year. Jordan said the \$40 million payment had been waived by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia but the Saudi oil minister said the King had very little to do with "commercial transactions in oil."

Despite the Saudi assertions that the cut-off in oil supply was purely a commercial decision, it is widely seen as a reflection of Riyadh's anger over what it sees as the deep pro-Iraq sentiments in Jordan.

The cut-off in Saudi oil supply was followed by an expulsion of 32 Jordanian diplomats and embassy staff from Saudi Arabia. In protest against the move, the Jordanian ambassador was recalled from Riyadh and it was reported Saturday that the Saudi ambassador to Jordan was recalled home.

Jordanian officials, who have opted for quiet diplomacy in the row with Saudi Arabia, Saturday refused to characterise the recall of the Saudi ambassador as any form of strain in diplomatic relations. "It is up to the Saudi government to recall its diplomats whenever it wants," said a senior Foreign Ministry official.

The Saudi military, cultural, trade and labour attaches have already returned home.

Saudi Arabia also sought to choke Jordanian agricultural exports by denying entry to trucks carrying Jordanian produce across the border. Amman promptly banned the transit through

Jordanian territory of all trucks bound for Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states and the issue was partially resolved under a delicate compromise after producer prices quadrupled in one day in several Gulf states in the absence of Jordanian, Syrian and Turkish produce reaching there.

Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Thabet Al Taha said last month that Jordan had only a "few weeks" of oil stock and unless arrangements were made to ensure continued supplies rationing would have to be introduced.

Jordan's daily consumption is estimated at around 60,000 barrels, and only a negligible fraction of this requirement is met from its oil wells near the border with Iraq.

Badran said that Jordan had enough oil reserves for the moment and that it would use part of its reserves until the problem was solved.

Saudi Arabia also sought to choke Jordanian agricultural exports by denying entry to trucks carrying Jordanian produce across the border. Amman promptly banned the transit through

## France will not be party to war

(Continued from page 1)

It said Ambassador Marco Colombo and the embassy's first secretary had gone to Baghdad.

Iraq said Friday that the United States and its Western allies were trying to control the oil of the Middle East and to "impose imperialist political, economic and military hegemony over the world."

In an uncompromising speech to the General Assembly, it said the way to achieve peace and justice was to tackle all the issues of the Middle East equally, including those of Palestine, Lebanon and the Gulf, as proposed by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Aug. 12.

The Iraqi address, three times postponed, was delivered on behalf of Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz by Iraq's deputy U.N. representative, Sabah Talar Kadri.

He substituted for U.N. Ambassador Abdul Amir Al Anbari, admitted to a hospital overnight after suffering a severe nosebleed at the United Nations Thursday shortly before he was to have addressed the assembly.

The Iraqi delegation, emphasising its claim that Kuwait is Iraq's 19th province and has no right to a U.N. seat, walked out when Dharar

Razouki of Kuwait replied to the Iraqi speech.

Saudi Arabian U.N. Representative Samir Shihabi and Ambassador Thomas Pickering of the United States later also attacked the Iraqi statement — Brazil's navy minister said that the lack of a unified command could lead to units of the multinational force now in the Gulf fighting each other by mistake.

Admiral Mario Cesa Flores told Reuters in an interview that "North American (U.S.) planes could attack British planes by mistake because of the lack of a united defence."

"At 1,000 kilometres per hour in the air, nobody knows who's who," the admiral said.

To solve the problem, the United Nations should provide a mandate for a unified command structure, he added.

British women and children still in Kuwait were urged Saturday to join a flight to London via Baghdad planned for next Wednesday.

A Foreign Office message beamed

to Kuwait by British Broadcasting Corporation radio said those wanting to leave should get in touch with the British or American embassies to secure a seat on the U.S. chartered aircraft.

A British warship enforcing a U.N. trade embargo against Iraq intercepted a merchant vessel in the Gulf Saturday — and found it was chartered by the U.N. to carry refugees fleeing Kuwait.

The destroyer Gloucester stopped the Indian cargo ship Tipu Sultan, the ministry of defence said.

The ship, which had originally taken food into Kuwait, was returning to Dubai, carrying mainly Indian refugees.

A Scottish scientist working for Kuwait's ministry of health, has died in Kuwait, his family said Saturday. William Atack, 46, and worked in Kuwait for eight years as a scientific officer at the ministry.

Atack's family said in a statement they had learnt of his death from the British Foreign Office Sept. 30 and added: "It is understood that he took ill but did not recover."

"The cause of his death is not known."

## Goitre remains common despite availability of iodised salt

**THERE** are more people with goitre in the Federal Republic of Germany than anywhere else in Europe. Fifteen million, or one in four, used to be said to suffer from a morbid enlargement of the thyroid gland that produces a swelling in front of the throat.

Latest estimates indicate that the complaint is even more widespread. Stuttgart specialist Professor Rainer Hehrmann says 42 per cent of men and 30 per cent of women are affected.

Signs of goitre have been found in over 50 per cent of 13-year-old German schoolchildren.

Iodine deficiency is known to be mainly to blame. The thyroid gland, which is in the neck, needs iodine to produce hormones essential for growth, metabolism and the development of the central nervous system and intelligence.

At a Thyroid Gland Forum meeting held in Nice, France, Professor Hehrmann described the iodine supply in the Federal Republic as catastrophic.

Three out of 10 goitre patients have thyroid glands that produce either too much or too few hormones.

Goitre is not, to begin with, accompanied by bodily ailments. The first signs are a feeling of pressure in the throat. Patients feel they have a constant lump in their throat.

They may also feel uncomfortable when wearing high-necked clothes. Once the condition is more advanced patients have difficulty in swallowing and then feel hoarse

and breathless.

These symptoms do not, as a rule, occur until the swollen thyroid gland has started to exert pressure on adjacent organs, such as the respiratory and alimentary tract, vocal chords and blood vessels.

Doctors attach great importance to spotting goitre in its early stages. The sooner it is treated the greater the likelihood of a cure.

Professor Hehrmann says there is little point in increasing the iodine intake of patients who have had the condition for years; their thyroid glands will no longer be able to convert iodine into hormones.

In their case artificial hormones must be prescribed and taken.

An adequate iodine supply is particularly important during pregnancy, when women need added iodine, not just to supply the foetus but in connection with metabolic changes they themselves undergo.

Hamburg gynaecologist Professor Heinz Günter Bohnet recommends taking iodine tablets during pregnancy.

Goitre is not, to begin with, accompanied by bodily ailments. The first signs are a feeling of pressure in the throat. Patients feel they have a constant lump in their throat.

They may also feel uncomfortable when wearing high-necked clothes. Once the condition is more advanced patients have difficulty in swallowing and then feel hoarse

— The German Tribune.

## Sudan moves to avert food shortage

By Mohammad Ahmed Hisham

KHARTOUM — Sudanese officials have warned of the possibility of a repeat of the large-scale displacement of people which occurred as a result of the 1983-4 drought.

Over 4,000 refugees from northern Kordofan are camping at the villages of Abu Zeid and El Mulieh outside Khartoum according to the city commission.

Brigadier Mohammad Osman Mohammed Saeed. These villages were the focus of a huge influx of people forced to flee their homes during the 1983-4 famine.

About two million of Khartoum's current population of five million are estimated to have been displaced during that drought.

Fears of food shortages following poor rainfall pushed up the price of the main staple food, durah, from 400 Sudanese pounds (\$35) a sack to around 1,200 pounds in early September.

Market sources attributed the price hike to a fall in deliveries from the main production areas in eastern Sudan to the central market at Omdurman.

But others blame the rise on middlemen and black marketers who, they say, by hoarding and smuggling, have exaggerated the impact of the fall in production.

Durah production has fallen from over five million tonnes in 1983/89 — which gave an export surplus of 1.2 million tonnes — to just 1.8 million tonnes this year.

The forecast had been for three million tonnes.

In addition, he said, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) had promised to provide shipments of maize and soybeans — PANOS features.

with durah, some apparently for smuggling the grain out of the country.

The government, he said, had decided to buy all available supplies of durah and sell it to the public through rationing cards at less than half the market price. This subsidy will cost the government around 200 million pounds.

Fears of an imminent famine substantially, pushing up the price of a dozen eggs from 21 pounds to 30 pounds. The knock-on effect of the feed price rise was to push down livestock prices, with the price of sheep, for example, falling from 1,200 pounds to less than 1,000 pounds.

Minister for Animal Welfare, Dr. Abu Al Gasim Ahmed Shummo, said the government had taken measures to protect livestock farmers from the impact of drought, including wells and opening up new areas for grazing.

he said there were plans to use the railway to transport livestock to Khartoum from El Obeid, the capital of Kordofan province, and Nyala, capital of southern Darfur province in western Sudan.

The ministry planned to provide animal health care, as well as sending emergency supplies of animal feed to selected areas with good irrigation and implementing a rescue plan to save female livestock from slaughter.

Durah production has fallen from over five million tonnes in 1983/89 — which gave an export surplus of 1.2 million tonnes — to just 1.8 million tonnes this year.

The forecast had been for three million tonnes.

In addition, he said, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) had promised to provide shipments of maize and soybeans — PANOS features.

THE PROFESSIONALS  
ALWAYS CHOOSE  
THE RELIABLE

PACKING, AIR FREIGHT  
FORWARDING, DOOR-to-DOOR  
SERVICES AND  
DELIVERIES. CUSTOMS  
CLEARANCE, TICKETS  
AND, RESERVATIONS.

AMIN KAWAR & SONS  
TEL: 604576 604896  
P.O.BOX 7806  
AMMAN

CROWN  
INT'L EST.

packing, shipping,  
forwarding, storing,  
clearing, door-to-door  
service

Agents all over the world  
Tel: 6564999, Fax: 6564952  
Tlx: 222288 BECMCO JO  
P.O. Box 523487  
AMMAN JORDAN

EASTERN  
PACKING  
DOOR TO DOOR SERVICES  
INTERNATIONAL FORWARDING  
AIR & SEA FREIGHT

TEL: 621 775 FAX: 656 270  
TLX: 23 023 POB: 815 408  
AMMAN-JORDAN

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays  
Bank. Phone: 604042  
Swefieh tel: 823891

STUDIO HAIG  
Professional Quality in  
1 Hour Service  
Develop your colour film at  
our shop and get:

\* JUMBO photo  
size 30% larger  
\* Free enlargement  
20 x 30 cm

Shmeisani - Opp. Grindlays  
Bank. Phone: 604042  
Swefieh tel: 823891



15 morts et plus de 100 blessés

## Dérapage au Liban

Le blocus instauré il y a deux semaines par le président libanais Elias Hraoui sur la région de Metn, que contrôle le général Aoun, a abouti lundi à un véritable massacre. Ce blocus consiste à priver de denrées alimentaires essentielles, de carburant et de la liberté de circulation des 500.000 habitants de cette zone de 300 km carrés qui s'étend de Beyrouth vers le nord-est de la ville. Son but est d'obtenir le ralliement du général chrétien «rebelle» aux accords de Taëf, sur la base desquels le président Hraoui a été élu en novembre 1989. Un blocus qui avait été présenté comme le seul moyen d'obtenir la rédition du général sans utiliser le canon, en désolidar-

isant la population du Metn d'avec «son» chef militaire.

L'effet a été inverse. La popularité en baisse du général Aoun a retrouvé un second souffle avec ce blocus et a conduit la population à s'en prendre au président Hraoui. Il a fait valoir qu'elle était la première victime des restrictions et que, si M. Hraoui voulait comme il le dit depuis dix mois venir finir avec le général Aoun, il devait s'attaquer directement à lui. Dès le premier jour, en effet, le blocus avait provoqué une hausse vertigineuse des carburants et affecté l'approvisionnement en produits frais. Les stocks de médicaments commençaient à s'épuiser dans les services hospitaliers

et à poser des problèmes graves, auxquel est venu s'ajouter le manque de personnel que les restrictions de circulation empêchaient de se rendre à son travail.

C'est pour demander la levée de ce blocus qu'avait lieu lundi une manifestation pacifiste des habitants du Metn sur une portion de l'autoroute côtière libanaise. Alors que plusieurs centaines de personnes étaient bloquées sur une passerelle étroite, la fusillade a éclaté. Les tirs de mortier, de canon de char et de DCA (batteries antiaériennes) ont fait quinze morts et plus de cent blessés parmi les manifestants. Les rescapés de Nahar al-Mott ont accusé les Forces Libanaises

de Samir Geage (alliées du président Hraoui) d'être à l'origine du massacre, tandis que les Forces Libanaises accusaient le général Aoun d'avoir monté ce «coup» contre son propre camp pour sensibiliser l'opinion à sa cause.

Qui est sûr, à la lumière de ces événements, c'est que le blocus ne permet ni d'éviter le baï de sang, ni d'obtenir la rédition du général Aoun, qui a déjà réitéré jeudi sa détermination à ne pas rallier l'administration Hraoui.

Réagissant à ces événements, la France a réaffirmé «son soutien entier» au gouvernement libanais, tout en insistant sur son souhait que tout affrontement sanglant soit évité entre l'armée et les partisans du général chrétien.

(Agences)

Conférence au CERMOC

## Les tribus bédouines et l'Etat

Ricardo Bocco est un chercheur italien de l'Institut de Recherches Musulmanes et Arabes Contemporaines (IRMAC) en France. Il est également assistant en sociologie politi-

que à l'Institut Universitaire pour les Etudes du Développement à Genève. M. Bocco poursuit des recherches anthropologiques sur la Jordanie depuis neuf ans. La semaine dernière, il don-

naît une conférence au Centre d'Etude sur le Moyen-Orient Contemporain (CERMOC) d'Amman pour nous faire partager quelques uns des fruits d'une recherche qui l'occupe depuis un certain temps déjà sur les «tribus bédouines et l'Etat».

Une certaine ambiguïté entoure encore le mot tribu. Par exemple, en arabe, le concept est exprimé tantôt sous le vocable «Kabil», tantôt sous celui d'«Achira», ou encore d'«Hamouda».

De même, on se heurte parfois à des définitions primitives qui réduisent le sens du mot aux valeurs arabes morales telles que la générosité et le courage.

En Jordanie, les tribus sont encore empreintes de certains mythes de pouvoir. Cela s'est manifesté au début des années 1980 par des épisodes au niveau national.

Les tribus sont apparues clairement à cette occasion comme une question fondamentale.

En 1983-84 eut lieu un grand débat sur la compatibilité entre tribalisme et démocratie.

Lorsqu'un ministre déclara que le tribalisme était anti-démocratique, le Roi réagit immédiatement en publiant une lettre dans laquelle il affirmait que toute attaque contre le tribalisme devait être considérée comme une attaque contre lui-même.

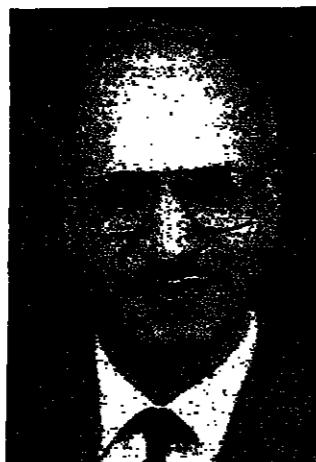
Plus récemment encore, il y a quelques semaines, des tribus, sous différentes formes de signatures, ont publié des encarts publicitaires dans les journaux pour exprimer leur position vis-à-vis de la crise du Golfe et pour réaffirmer leur soutien au Roi.

M. Bocco, qui même se recherche sur les tribus dans le sud de la Jordanie (particulièrement dans le Howeitat), considère que la notion de tribu est le vecteur d'un ensemble de valeurs qui exprime une identité construite.

La notion d'«Etat» suscite tout.

Suleiman Sweihi

### L'attente!



Deux mois après l'opération irakienne du 2 août, la situation reste ambiguë dans la région, malgré les signes timides, ici et là, d'apaisement et de modération. Il semble que M. Bush ait été enfin convaincu par les rapports de ses conseillers: une guerre contre l'Irak ces jours-ci pourrait avoir des conséquences désastreuses pour l'Amérique, au moment où l'on ressent l'embargo -voire le blocus- autour de l'Irak. Sans renoncer à ses positions de fond, M. Bush s'est montré, pour la première fois, disposé à discuter d'une solution politique globale aux problèmes de la région.

En attendant, une forte pression psychologique est exercée sur l'Irak et les Arabes. On continue à menacer: si l'embargo s'avère inefficace, alors on envisage une action militaire sous le drapeau de l'ONU. Et tout cela n'empêche pas l'éclatement possible des hostilités à n'importe quel moment. Les déclarations apaisantes pourraient faire partie du «jeu». L'ancien ministre israélien de la «défense», Moshe Dayan avait bien fait un discours «spécifiques» le 4 juin 1967. Cela ne l'a pas empêché de lancer sa guerre éclair le lendemain matin contre les troupes égyptiennes. Depuis, les méthodes de la guerre psychologique et les moyens de tromper son ennemi se sont considérablement développés.

Jouer la carte de l'embargo et brandir en même temps les menaces militaires relève d'une tactique qui, aux yeux des stratégies américaines, consiste à harceler les Irakiens psychologiquement pour obtenir leur rédition sans avoir besoin de faire vraiment la guerre contre eux.

Quelle est la situation du côté des Irakiens? Il semble qu'ils aient organisé leur vie de telle façon qu'ils résisteront longtemps au blocus, le premier du genre dans l'histoire.

De plus, il semble que la guerre psychologique n'ait pas une grande influence sur eux. La cause qu'ils défendent mérite à leurs yeux tous les sacrifices. Politiquement, on ne perçoit aucun signe tendant à montrer que les dirigeants de Bagdad sont disposés à modifier leurs positions.

Comment concilier les éléments contradictoires de ce tableau de la situation?

Il est difficile de croire que l'évolution -très lente- de l'attitude américaine puisse signifier l'éloignement des risques de guerre. La confrontation entre les adversaires n'est pas statique. Chaque jour apporte une évolution dans un sens comme dans un autre. Ayant des dimensions internationales et multiformes, la crise actuelle dans le Golfe arabe risque de se compliquer encore d'avantage.

D'abord, la concentration des troupes continue en Arabie. En observant de plus près leur nombre, leur nature et leurs manœuvres, on constate facilement que les préparatifs pour une action militaire s'accélèrent.

Ensuite, les prix du pétrole commencent à exercer leur pression sur les marchés. Même la surproduction saoudienne ne pourra pas remplacer le manque à gagner irakien et koweïtien. Le baril de pétrole algérien s'est vendu la semaine dernière à 43 dollars. Le monde capitaliste restera-t-il les bras croisés devant cette progression du prix de l'or noir?

Troisièmement: Que peuvent faire les grands marchands d'armes et que fait-on des stocks de munitions en Europe depuis la fin de la guerre froide? Le complexe militaro-industriel aux Etats-Unis, encouragé par les milieux sionistes influents au Congrès, milite également pour une solution militaire. La guerre a toujours été bénéfique pour les marchands de canons.

Enfin, les pays et les partis qui militent pour éviter la guerre, n'ont pas de moyens efficaces, malheureusement, pour imposer une solution politique équilibrée. Militairement, l'Europe a suivi l'Amérique, remarque-t-on dans de nombreux milieux politiques, en France et ailleurs. Il est difficile qu'il en soit autrement au niveau des choix politiques. On a déjà vu une illustration de cette faiblesse à propos de la question palestinienne, même si l'attitude européenne, en général, est en faveur des droits nationaux palestiniens.

Pour dire les choses franchement et directement: au delà de tout, les rapports entre le monde arabe et l'Occident pourraient être normalisés si l'on cherchait ensemble des solutions justes à deux grandes questions: le problème palestinien et l'exploitation déséquilibrée du pétrole arabe. Des réponses, qui supposent une prise en compte honnête des intérêts des peuples.

de Samir Geage (alliées du président Hraoui) d'être à l'origine du massacre, tandis que les Forces Libanaises accusaient le général Aoun d'avoir monté ce «coup» contre son propre camp pour sensibiliser l'opinion à sa cause.

Ce qui est sûr, à la lumière de ces événements, c'est que le blocus ne permet ni d'éviter le baï de sang, ni d'obtenir la rédition du général Aoun, qui a déjà réitéré jeudi sa détermination à ne pas rallier l'administration Hraoui.

Réagissant à ces événements, la France a réaffirmé «son soutien entier» au gouvernement libanais, tout en insistant sur son souhait que tout affrontement sanglant soit évité entre l'armée et les partisans du général chrétien.

(Agences)

### Sans blague!

## Les procès du Moyen-Orient (suite)

A la demande de nombreux lecteurs, nous continuons, ci-dessous, le récit des procès du Moyen-Orient, dont la première partie avait paru dans notre numéro précédent. Toute ressemblance avec des personnages existant ou ayant existé ne serait que pure coïncidence.

[Résumé de l'article précédent: Le procès Palestine-Israël allait commencer au tribunal onusien. Javier, le juge de ce tribunal, avait cinq fils invisibles attachés à son visage, manipulés par les cinq Grands. Ceux-ci comprenaient deux gaillards: l'oncle Sam et l'Ours, et trois dames: Albion, Marianne et Chine. Sam, devenu le plus fort des Grands, tenait le fil attaché au nez du juge; l'Ours tenait le fil attaché à sa langue; Albion et Marianne tenaient chaque un fil attaché à l'une de ses épaules et Chine le fil attaché à sa poitrine.

Par ailleurs, pour satisfaire les besoins de ses enfants, dont une bonne partie s'adossait à différentes, et onéreuses, formes de vice, Sam avait besoin de beaucoup d'argent. Pour s'en procurer, il avait en recours au brigandage et avait réuni autour de lui des truands dont le moins scrupuleux était Israël. Sam, devenu le seul à pouvoir facilement dénicher de précieux dollars, vit l'Ours se rapprocher de lui tandis que la vieille Albion, Marianne et Chine se disputaient ses faveurs...]

Sam, sentant que Javier (qu'il savait être un bon catholique) commençait à être influencé par les arguments d'Arafat, tira les fils qu'il tenait. Albion, le voyant faire, l'immite immédiatement et tira sur le sien. Le pauvre Javier devint perplexe. Comment garder intacts son nez, sa langue et son oreille droite tout en essayant de ne pas être trop injuste? Pourquoi Palestine n'avait-elle jamais accepté de flirter avec Sam? Pourquoi ses enfants ne s'étaient-ils pas mis à son service?

«Mais Palestine est musulmane et ne considère pas comme authentique le document que vous venez d'exhiber, finit-il par dire. Avez-vous un document à produire, Me Arafat?»

«Présentez votre plainte, Me Arafat, demanda le juge.

«En bref, en 1919, des fils d'Albion furent envoyés comme experts pour améliorer (en principe) l'exploitation de la terre de ma cliente. Ceux-ci permirent à Israël et à bon nombre de ses enfants de venir vivre sur cette terre et les organisèrent en bandes armées, bien entraînées aux techniques du terrorisme et de la guerre. Lorsque le contrat des fils d'Albion vint à expiration en 1948, Israël et ses bandes prirent de force les trois quarts de la terre de Palestine et en chassèrent tous ses enfants qui durent aller travailler comme serfs sur les terres des autres. Non content de faire venir ses propres enfants sur la partie de la terre ainsi occupée, Israël se mit à y faire venir, et à adopter, tous les cancers et les vaurois qui étaient prêts à fuir leurs terres natales. Devenu le moins scrupuleux des truands de l'oncle Sam...»

Contrairement à ce que pensent certains, Ricardo Bocco affirme que le tribalisme ne s'est pas effrité et qu'il n'a pas disparu. Les tribus représentent tout un système socio-politique que les autorités ont toujours cherché à consolider.

Mais ce système pourra-t-il résister encore longtemps aux défis de la vie moderne des Jordaniens, caractérisée de plus en plus par des rapports sociaux de nature capitaliste? Que dire des émeutes d'avril 1989 qui ont éclaté justement au sud du pays, dans les fiefs bédouins? Contrairement à ce que pensent certains, Ricardo Bocco affirme que le tribalisme ne s'est pas effrité et qu'il n'a pas disparu. Les tribus représentent tout un système socio-politique que les autorités ont toujours cherché à consolider.

Malgré ce système pourra-t-il résister encore longtemps aux défis de la vie moderne des Jordaniens, caractérisée de plus en plus par des rapports sociaux de nature capitaliste? Que dire des émeutes d'avril 1989 qui ont éclaté justement au sud du pays, dans les fiefs bédouins?

La notion d'«Etat» suscite tout.

Suleiman Sweihi

### Hospitalité

Perdre une roue sur la route des Rois aurait pu être une tragédie. Ce fut pour moi la chance de découvrir que l'hospitalité arabe n'est ni un vain mot ni une vieille tradition tombée en désuétude.

Nous étions cinq amis dans une petite voiture de location, en route vers Pétra. Sortis des pentes à pic du Wadi Mujib, nous décidions de faire une courte escale à Kerak pour acheter des boissons avant de reprendre la route. A peine quittions nous la ville que la voiture se mit à tangier et s'effondra brutalement dans un bruit de ferraille épouvantable: la roue arrière gauche venait de se désolidariser de son essieu et nous dépassa avant de tomber sur le flanc, au bord de la route. Dans la nuit noire, nous pûmes retrouver la roue mais pas les boulons permettant de la fixer et de poursuivre notre chemin.

En désespoir de cause, il ne nous restait plus qu'à attendre au bord de la route qu'une voiture nous vienne en aide. La première que nous vîmes était un minibus municipal. Devant nos gestes désespérés, il s'arrêta et deux jeunes hommes en descendant. Sans hésiter et aussi rapidement que cela, ils nous inviterent à passer la nuit chez eux.

La maison familiale nous fut grande ouverte. On s'assit par terre sur des matelas disposés en cercle, les bras posés sur des coussins moelleux. Tout à tour, tous les hommes de la famille vinrent nous souhaiter la bienvenue et s'installèrent avec nous pour discuter de notre aventure, de la crise du Golfe, et de bien d'autres choses. Un des garçons nous servit du thé, du café, puis fut un vrai dîner: hommels, foul, purée d'aubergines, fromage blanc, confiture...

La famille est palestinienne, originaire de Gaza, et installée à Kerak depuis des années. Le père, un vieil homme âgé de plus de soixante ans, vit avec ses fils, certains mariés d'autres non, leurs femmes et leurs enfants. Vers dix-heures, tout le monde part se coucher, sauf un des fils qui nous propose de jouer aux cartes. Nous jouons pendant des heures, comme des amis de longue date, jusqu'à ce que nous nous endormions.

Le lendemain matin, nous découvrions les femmes de la famille. La mère vient nous apporter un petit déjeuner copieux, l'épouse d'un des fils vient nous souhaiter le bonjour et une petite fille d'une dizaine d'années vient discuter un peu avec nous et nous présenter son petit frère.

Cette chaleur, cette entraide, cette amitié spontanée dénuée de toute méfiance ou arrière pensée, auxquelles les Occidentaux sont si peu habitués, m'a réchauffé le cœur. En cette période de rapports politiques difficiles entre Occidentaux et Arabes, elles m'ont semblé prendre une dimension humaine décomplexée.

Ce séjour imprévu à Kerak restera un de mes plus beaux souvenirs, tout comme la découverte du temple rose de Pétra à travers les roches informes du débouché du Siq.

Jean-Marc Bordes

### EN BREF

Jordanie-Japon. Le premier ministre japonais, Toshiki Kaifu, a achevé jeudi une visite de deux jours à Amman, au cours de laquelle il a rencontré le roi Hussein ainsi que l'un des principaux dirigeants irakiens, Taha Yassine Ramadane. Il a annoncé à cette occasion une aide japonaise de 250 millions de dollars à la Jordanie, qui fait passer de 200 à 450 millions de dollars l'aide totale promise au royaume.

Le premier ministre jordanien, Moudar Badrane, a annoncé jeudi soir que des mesures de rationnement des carburants étaient à l'étude et qu'elles devraient entrer en application dans les prochains jours. Le premier ministre a indiqué que la Jordanie est en contact avec des compagnies pétrolières internationales pour trouver des sources d'approvisionnement en remplacement de l'Irak, dont elle importait 90% de ses besoins pétroliers avant la crise à un tarif préférentiel de 16,4 dollars le baril. Amman continue à importer d'Irak près de 40% de son pétrole et les autorités jordanienes ont affirmé à plusieurs reprises que la Jordanie poursuivra ses importations d'Irak tant qu'elle n'aura pas trouvé de solution alternative.

Diplomatie. Evgeni Primakov, conseiller politique du président soviétique Mikhaïl Gorbatchev, a remis au roi Hussein, à Amman, un message du numéro un soviétique portant sur la crise du Golfe et les efforts déployés en vue d'un règlement négocié de cette crise ainsi que des autres problèmes du Proche-Orient. Il s'est en outre entretenu dans la capitale jordanienne avec Yasser Arafat, auquel il a réaffirmé, selon une source responsable palestinienne, l'opposition de l'URSS au recours à une solution militaire pour régler la crise du Golfe. Il a ensuite quitté Amman pour Bagdad, où il a rencontré le président irakien Saddam Hussein. Là encore, il a insisté sur une solution négociée, passant inévitablement par un retrait préalable des troupes irakiennes du Koweït.

Irak-Koweït. Le président irakien Saddam Hussein a effectué mercredi sa première visite au Koweït depuis l'annexion de l'émirat le 2 août. Le président irakien et son cortège ont traversé des avances désertes avant d'inspecter des positions de l'armée irakienne sur le littoral du Koweït. La télévision irakienne a diffusé le soir même des séquences filmées de cette visite dans une ville morte.

Porte-avions. Le porte-avions américain «Independence» est entré mardi dans le Golfe pour se familiariser, selon le Pentagone, avec ses «conditions opérationnelles particulières» et pour fournir une «démonstration visible de ses capacités opérationnel

Institut Français d'Archéologie au Proche-Orient

## L'IFAPO change de tête

Depuis le 1er octobre, un nouveau directeur est à la tête de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie au Proche-Orient (IFAPO). François Villeneuve remplace à ce poste Georges Tate, qui dirigeait l'Institut depuis dix ans. Une bonne occasion pour dresser le bilan des activités de ce foyer scientifique français au Proche-

«C'est un peu le hasard, l'IFAPO.» Historien de formation, Georges Tate, qui m'a formé, il est nommé pour conduire à prendre la tête de l'Institut d'histoire au début des

### PASSEZ-MOI MON FRANÇAIS

La rubrique de Flavia Romero

#### Amour

Ave Egeria,

Une langue aussi belle et riche que le français n'a qu'un seul verbe: «aimer», pour signifier éprouver de l'affection, de l'amitié, de la tendresse, de la sympathie pour quelqu'un ou quelque chose. J'aime mes parents, mes amoureux, mon mari, mes enfants, mes amis; mais j'aime aussi les «spaghetti al dente», ma voiture, mon chien et le ciel bleu. On emploie beaucoup plus souvent qu'il ne faudrait le verbe «adorer», qui perd ainsi toute sa signification. J'aime-j'aime-j'aime, un peu, beaucoup, tendrement, passionnément, à la folie, pas du tout, sûrs de notre amour, de notre dédition, et de notre générosité, on risque en effet de se réveiller un beau matin pour se rendre compte, dans un flash, que notre amour n'était justement qu'un... pas du tout. Et plus cette découverte arrive tard dans la vie, plus on a la conscience que c'est irrémédiable, et cela fait mal.

L'attitude imbécile de la femme qui parle à son chien: «Viens mon petit, viens voir ta maman mon chou. On t'a fait la petite opération, n'est-ce pas mon chou?» Comme cela, les mauvais gros chiens ne pourront pas te faire de mal. Le petit chou est une chienne qui porte un nœud coquet sur la tête, un collier doté d'une petite clochette qui l'abrutit complètement; on lui a coupé la queue et les oreilles au nom de je ne sais quelle beauté et, finalement, on l'a châtrée pour ne pas avoir de problèmes. J'en connais une qui «adore les animaux» et qui, non seulement fait châtrer sa chatte, mais lui fait arracher les ongles aussi, pour ne pas risquer d'avoir les fauteuils abîmés. Quel amour exemplaire!

En lisant ces choses, nous avons tous un mouvement d'horreur, on se sent différent et pourtant, est-ce que nous le sommes vraiment? est-ce que nous n'aimons pas souvent, de la même façon cruelle, les êtres qui nous sont les plus chers? Comment aimons-nous nos enfants pour lesquels nous donnerions volontiers la vie? De quelle qualité est notre amour? Est-ce que nous ne désirons pas toujours, dangereusement, qu'ils rachètent nos erreurs, sachent là où nous n'avons pas su, satisfont nos frustrations profondes? Est-ce que nous ne désirons pas surtout qu'ils ne nous fassent pas perdre la face, qu'ils nous rachètent aux yeux des amis, des parents, des voisins? Quant aux personnes que nous aimons, né leur donne-t-on pas toujours un rôle à jouer qui les oblige à habiller leur personnage comme avec une chemise trop étroite qui craquerait de tous les côtés, ou à se rebeller, en causant toujours une énorme souffrance?

Il est grand temps que les écoles nous apprennent à aimer. Mieux vaut ne pas connaître les données stériles d'un notionnisme aride, mais savoir aimer, savoir s'aimer, et, en soi, aimer tous les hommes et tous les êtres vivants de la Terre. De ce point de vue, le français aurait raison. Aimer, comme seul verbe, suffirait.

Les «grands de ce monde» se sont réunis dernièrement pour prendre en considération les enfants qui meurent de faim, de maladie et de la guerre. LES ENFANTS QUI MEURENT. Les mass-média parlent de cette rencontre comme d'une chose extraordinaire. Ce qui est sûrement extraordinaire, à mon avis, c'est le fait que les grands prennent conscience de tous ces millions d'enfants aussi tard que ça. Et que feront-ils pour eux? Pour tous ces enfants à l'énorme ventre gonflé que l'inanition rend squelettiques? Est-ce qu'ils pensent que cette même inanition ou l'horreur de la guerre les anesthésient assez pour que la belle assemblée se sente dispensée de tout amour?

Si le président Bush soutenait une loi mauvaise pour un des Etats unis, disons le Texas par exemple, on ne la lui laisserait jamais passer. Pourquoi, quand un chef d'Etat prend des décisions, au lieu de penser seulement à son pays, ne pourra-t-il pas prendre en considération le monde entier? L'homme a conquis l'espace, qui, jusqu'à maintenant, semble être vide. Nous vivons donc sur une petite planète isolée, bleue, belle à faire pleurer, mais habitée par des êtres humains qui, tout en ayant eu la Révélation, absents de la religion. Des êtres humains qui n'ont su créer qu'un processus irréversible appelé progrès, qui, sous la surface brillante, confortable, parfumée, élégante, cache la bête cruelle et inhumaine de l'avidité. Peu de personnes semblent se rendre compte que le progrès technologique ne signifie pas civilisation.

Quand une chose est très abondante dans la nature, elle coûte peu et personne ne la veut spécialement. Avec l'argent, c'est le contraire: il y en a tellement sur notre planète! On est pris du vertige quand on entend parler des sommes astronomiques qu'il faut pour les armements, pour la conquête de l'espace, pour financer les services secrets d'un pays et pour accéder à la drogue. Pour donner de la valeur à cet argent, on l'enfouit dans les caisses de quelque banque, de quelque multinationale. ET DES MILLIONS D'ENFANTS MEURENT. Einstein a changé notre vision de l'Univers par une toute petite formule mathématique. N'y aurait-il pas un économiste de génie, capable de changer notre attitude envers le monde?

À la télévision jordanienne, j'ai entendu quelqu'un dire, récemment, que les enfants poussent plus sains et heureux dans une grande famille, avec de nombreux grands et petits frères, des oncles, des tantes, des mésanges et des cousins. Il parlait de parenté de sang. Ne serait-il pas mieux de ne pas essayer de surpeupler le monde, mais de sentir que tous les êtres humains sont notre famille? Il nous faudrait un lavage de cerveau au sens propre, pour le libérer de tous les préjugés, de toute la peur qui le paralyse.

J'ai un passeport européen et j'en suis fier. Le mur de Berlin est tombé; la Russie et les Etats-Unis se retrouvent avec plus de sérenité. Mais la chose que je désire le plus en ce moment serait d'avoir un passeport terrestre. Nationalité: humaine. Enfants: tous les enfants du monde. Religion: amour de la Crédit. Profession: la recherche continue de Dieu, pour que TOUS LES ENFANTS VIVENT.

Vale, Egeria!

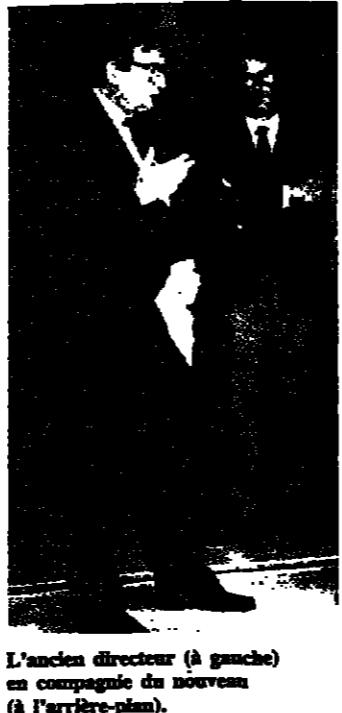
Orient; une bonne occasion aussi de dresser le portrait d'une homme, Georges Tate, qui découvrit l'archéologie en Syrie au début des années 1970 et qui, depuis, n'a cessé, et pour cause, de suivre de près les découvertes de l'IFAPO au Liban, en Syrie et en Jordanie.

années 1970, à l'école supérieure des lettres de Beyrouth, qui est une branche de l'Université de Lyon. Il exerce alors une thèse sur les paysans de Syrie du nord, dont il reconstruit l'histoire à travers les vestiges archéologiques qui se trouvent en grande quantité dans la région. C'est ainsi que, peu à peu, au fil de ses séjours sur le terrain et de l'interprétation de ses découvertes, il devient archéologue.

Lorsque l'Ecole supérieure des lettres ferme ses portes en 1975, on lui demande tout naturellement de devenir le directeur adjoint de l'Institut d'Archéologie. A cette époque, l'institut est en pleine évolution. Il porte encore le nom d'Institut d'Archéologie de Beyrouth, mais plus pour longtemps. Né en 1946 sur les cendres de la vieille «direction générale des antiquités» du Liban et de Syrie, fondée à l'époque mandataire, il se limite, jusqu'en 1973 à des activités de bibliothèque et de documentation. Deux pionniers sont élus régulièrement par un conseil pour y faire des recherches. Sur le terrain, une seule action est menée: celle d'un archéologue du nom de Tchelenko, dans le massif calcaire de Syrie du nord.

En 1973, un nouveau chantier est ouvert au Liban, au nord de Tripoli. La guerre, qui éclate en 1975 au pays du Cèdre, pousse l'institut à énamer des recherches dans des zones plus sûres. C'est le début du chantier d'Araq el-Amir, à 20 km d'Amman. Ce site antique, installé dans un amphithéâtre de rochers, au bord d'un ravin, était habité dès l'âge du Bronze. On y a découvert, entre autres, le palais rectangulaire de Qasr el-Abd, érigé aux alentours du IVème siècle av. J.C.

Ainsi, d'étape en étape, de chantier en nouveau chantier, l'institut sort du cadre de Beyrouth pour étendre ses activités à la Jordanie et à la Syrie. En 1977, il devient l'Institut Français d'Archéologie au Proche-Orient. Il ouvre en 1978 un centre à Amman et un autre centre, en 1985, à Damas, affirmant sa vocation régionale. «Notre terrain d'action», explique Georges Tate, «est celui de l'ancienne grande Syrie, qui couvre ces trois pays.» Sans renoncer à sa vocation documentaire, l'IFAPO s'ancre d'avantage sur le terrain et se lance de plus en plus dans des fouilles, souvent en collaboration avec les autorités et les archéologues locaux. En 1980, pour tenir compte de ces évolutions, on décide de nommer un homme de terrain à la tête de l'IFAPO dirigé jusqu'à par des académiciens savants: cet homme, chargé d'incarner la nouvelle orientation, c'est Georges Tate. Installé à Beyrouth qui, à cause des circonstances, reste un centre purement administratif et d'édition, il dirige les travaux des équipes de Syrie et de Jordanie. Outre le site de



L'ancien directeur (à gauche) en compagnie du nouveau (à l'arrière-plan).

Syrie du nord, qui est celui de ses débuts et celui dans lequel il s'est personnellement impliqué, Georges Tate aime évoquer le site jordanien de Jerash. «C'est un de ceux qui m'a tenu le plus à cœur, dit-il. D'abord parce que c'est une coopération franco-jordanienne. Ensuite parce qu'il ne se limite pas à l'étude d'un monument mais permet de comprendre l'évolution historique, sociale et culturelle d'une cité sur sept à huit siècles jusqu'à l'époque byzantine, à travers ses transformations, ses adaptations, son ouverture ou sa résistance aux influences extérieures.»

Les résultats des travaux de l'IFAPO sont publiés par leurs éditions de Beyrouth. Une revue bi-annuelle, intitulée Syria, compte 350 abonnés dans le monde entier. Les ouvrages de fond sont édités au rythme de 1 à 6 par an, dans une collection intitulée «Bibliothèque archéologique et historique». Des livres parfois un peu difficile, mais généralement accessibles à un public culturel.

«Après dix ans il faut faire autre chose», dit Georges Tate pour expliquer son départ. Il rejoindra dans quelques jours son nouveau poste de professeur d'histoire et d'archéologie de l'Orient à Besançon (dans l'est de la France), mais assure qu'il reviendra dans la région bientôt pour poursuivre ses recherches.

Son successeur, François Villeneuve, s'est occupé du premier chantier en Jordanie, celui d'Araq el-Amir, et d'un village nabatéen près de Pétra où de très intéressantes découvertes ont été faites sur l'existence, à l'époque, d'une agriculture très développée, notamment grâce à un réseau d'irrigation très sophistiquée. Toute une civilisation sédentaire est en train d'y être mise à jour.

Georges Tate qualifie son successeur d'homme «brillant».

«Le Jourdain» adresse ses félicitations au directeur partant et au nouvel arrivant.

Jean-Marc Bordes



Georges Tate, dix ans à la tête de l'IFAPO.

**Vous écrivez?**

Si la plume vous dérange, que vous écrivez en français... «Le Jourdain» vous ouvre ses deux pages hebdomadaires. Vos idées de sujets, locaux et régionaux, comme vos suggestions y sont les bienvenues.

Jean-Marc Bordes, French section, Jordan Times.  
P.O. Box 6716. Tel: 66771.

## A L'AFFICHE

### FOCUS

#### News at Ten

##### Un nouveau générique

La deuxième chaîne de télévision jordanienne (JTV) a inauguré le 1er octobre un nouveau générique pour son journal quotidien d'actualité en langue anglaise, News at Ten. Mureed Hammad, responsable du journal depuis avril 1990, explique les raisons qui ont motivé ce changement dont il est l'initiateur.

Le Jourdain: Quelles sont les fonctions les plus saillantes d'un rédacteur en chef de journal télévisé?

Mureed Hammad: J'en compte cinq: décider des titres du jour les plus brûlants pour le spectateur jordanien; préciser l'approche de chaque sujet et leur encadrement thématique; se charger du montage des interviews et des reportages; et surveiller la qualité littéraire des textes. D'ailleurs, je trouve qu'un travail étroit avec l'équipe artistique de l'émission est une activité de grande valeur. Il est essentiel de renseigner les réalisateurs sur le contexte politique avant qu'ils fassent leur conducteur: une telle orientation aide à faire dans le choix de l'image juste.

Li: Quelle est la signification d'un générique pour un service d'information?

MH: Elle est fondamentale. C'est le drapéau de l'émission. Son identité. Son message.

N'oublions pas que la création d'une nouvelle écriture pour News at Ten s'inscrit dans l'effort général de la JTV pour se réformer par une modernisation de moyens, aussi bien que d'apparence et de style. Dans la section anglaise, dont les débuts remontent à 1970, c'est le premier changement en une quinzaine d'années.

Li: Comment fonctionne la nouvelle signature?

MH: Partons de l'indicatif musical. Un signal pulsant. Il alerte le spectateur; commande son attention. Le générique qu'il entraîne en fait autant. En une durée de 13 secondes, le spectateur se trouve gagné par un déferlement dramatique d'images rapides, qui forment ensemble un double diptyque: quatre fenêtres sur le monde. A l'origine de ces fenêtres est le mot NEWS. Les choses se passent ainsi: emportées par la cadence de l'indicatif, les lettres N, E, W, S, viennent se mettre bout à bout sur un arrière-plan gris. A ce moment, le drame commence. Comme un parachutiste, la première des lettres tombe de façon verticale, ouvrant ainsi une première fenêtre. Tour à tour, le reste des lettres la suivent. En quelques secondes, le spectateur se trouve en face de quatre fenêtres supportées à la base par le mot NEWS et contenant un flot d'images à caractères politique et socio-économique, s'entretenant autour du drapéau de Jordanie.

Li: Et qui a conçu cette idée?

MH: Les détails du générique sont dus à l'équipe de la JTV, notamment au graphiste Bassam Bayrouti. Mais on ne peut pas dire que l'idée a été réalisée du jour au lendemain. L'évolution s'est faite lentement. Peu après ma nomination, j'ai ébauché le projet en esquissant quelques lignes directrices. Cherchant à donner au spectateur l'impression d'être plongé dans l'événement, je cherchais des images emblématiques et un son à la fois crescendo et urgent. La tonalité de l'image aussi était fondamentale pour moi. J'imaginais pour l'arrière-plan une image en instance de dévoilement. J'imaginais du gris. Puis, dès le mois de juin, l'idée commença à prendre tournure. La forme définitive est née grâce à une série de tentatives et pas mal de disputes avec mes collègues artistes.

Li: Les changements dans le journal ne sont-ils que cosmétiques?

MH: Forme et substance sont étroitement liées. En étant plus concise, la forme nous permet d'introduire plus de sujets que par le passé. Le gain d'espace donnera plus d'ampleur aux reportages et aux entretiens avec les personnalités locales, un des grands buts de ce journal. On peut dire que le nouveau style a des grands buts.

Nous sommes très conscients qu'avec une durée de vingt minutes, News at Ten n'est pas une émission secondaire. Beaucoup de Jordaniens qui ont raté le journal de 20h comptent sur nous pour leur information. De plus, avec la mise en place de la démocratie en Jordanie, informer largement est devenu un devoir essentiel.

Le nouveau style rend possible l'extension de notre champ d'exploration.

Propos recueillis par Sami Kamal

### CINEMA

### TELEVISION

#### DIMANCHE

17h30 - «Mort d'Orque». Téâtral poétique de la série «Les cinq dernières minutes».

19h30 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Carnet de notes. Extraits de musiques classiques.

#### LUNDI

18h00 - Dever, le dernier dimanche. Dessin animé.

18h30 - Ca c'est du cinéma. Série sur les techniques du cinéma depuis l'époque de Charlie Chaplin.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdomadaire.

#### MARDI

18h00 - Scientifids. Les concepts scientifiques de base, manipulés par des enfants à travers des expériences simples.

18h10 - L'école des fans. Des enfants interprètent le répertoire de Marc Lavoine, sous la houlette de Jacques Martin.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: magazine local réalisé et présenté par Salim Madi.

#### MERCREDI

18h00 - «Moliéssimo». dessin animé sur les fonds sous-marins.

18h15 - Splendeur sauvage. Documentaire sur la vie des animaux.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Sélection de musique arabe.

#### JEUDI

18h00 - «Moliéssimo». dessin animé sur les fonds sous-marins.

18h15 - Splendeur sauvage. Documentaire sur la vie des animaux.

19h00 - Le Journal.

19h15 - Sélection de musique arabe.

#### VENDREDI

17h30 - «Salut l'artiste». Film de cinéma.

18h00 - Le Journal.

# Economy

Mayor plans 15,000 job cuts

## New York City 'is in deep trouble'

NEW YORK (R) — New York City, which barely skirted bankruptcy in the 1970s, is in major trouble again with its mayor threatening to dismiss 15,000 workers next month to meet a \$1.4 billion budget deficit.

The city's revenues are badly lagging behind projections as a regional recession takes hold and fears increase that a national one is on the way.

New York is also reeling from a crime wave that has so frightened residents nearly half of them are staying at home.

And Friday, figures were released showing unemployment in the city soared to 260,000 for September, up 57,000 from August.

The rise in unemployment appeared to be due to furloughs in the private sector.

Mayor Dinkins tried to allay fears about crime Tuesday by announcing a \$1.8 billion, four-year plan to hire thousands of police officers.

He followed that by granting teachers a generous 5.5 per cent pay rise. Then, he announced he was ordering a freeze on new hires for all departments except for the police and warned that he may have to fire 15,000 workers.

Dinkins, the first black ever elected mayor of New York, has been criticised for weeks for being indecisive or for treating

## Third World faces multi-billion dollar rebuilding spending

WASHINGTON (R) — The roads, bridges and infrastructure essential to economic development are crumbling throughout the Third World and it will take hundreds of billions of dollars to correct it, World Bank officials have said.

"There is an infrastructure crisis of vast proportions that may undermine attempts in the developing world to come to grips with economic reform," said one official.

The bank has ordered a major study to measure the depth of the crisis and decide what might be done to deal with it. The study is due to be finished early next year.

"We are talking about a problem that will cost hundreds of billions of dollars to resolve," said bank official Arturo Israel, who is conducting the research.

The price tag for roads alone is staggering. In a 1984 study, the bank estimated that in the 85 developing countries that receive its assistance, some \$90 billion will be needed over 10 years — and that is if everything goes right.

There are roads in Africa that

have virtually disappeared, re-taken by nature because of almost absolute neglect.

In Cairo, the water and sewerage system built around 1900 is falling apart, and the repair costs will be astronomical.

In Jakarta, the interurban freeway is excellent but the roads that lead from it are unpaved and sometimes seem to peter out in the surrounding swamp.

In Lagos, industries are con-

structing their own ultra-expensive power generating systems because the municipal grid is unreliable, plaguing citizens and companies alike with brownouts and interruptions.

Mexico City has a good under-

ground railway system but the cost of building it was so high that many other basic services have been neglected.

Even in the industrial world,

particularly the United States, there are huge problems.

The vast American interstate

highway system constructed in the 1960s and early 1970s is begin-

ning to crumble in places, putting yet another strain on the deficit-plagued U.S. budget.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

		Saturday, October 6, 1990	
		Central Bank official rates	
Buy	Sell	Japanese yen (for 100)	493.4 496.4
U.S. dollar	652.0 656.0	Dutch guilder	373.4 375.4
Pound Sterling	1275.4 1283.1	Swedish crown	114.7 114.4
Deutschmark	422.1 424.6	Italian lira (for 100)	56.3 56.6
Swiss franc	504.8 507.8	Belgian franc (for 10)	205.0 206.2
French franc	125.9 126.7		

## Algeria to set up embryonic stock market

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria plans to set up an embryonic stock market by the end of the month, an unprecedented move for a state-dominated socialist economy.

Abdul Aziz Korichi, delegate for reforms at the prime ministers office told a conference on state firms Saturday: "In the next 15 days we plan to set up a financial transactions company... a stock market."

He did not elaborate but the

government has already said it

planned to introduce a limited

form of stock trading in which

the country's autonomous state firms

could buy and sell each other's

shares.

More than half the country's

459 state firms have become

autonomous under economic re-

forms launched in the mid-1980s

that have dismantled central

planning.

The reforms make the enter-

prises independent profit centres

responsible for their own

budgets, pricing and production

targets in response to market

forces.

He blamed the Mayor's

approach to governing for part of

the problem.

"What's happening is a conse-

quence of actually doing things

piecemeal, of having the labour

(teachers) settlement before you

can gauge how weak the city's

economy is," said Rohatyn.

## EC agrees to British terms for sterling's entry in ERM

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) accepted Saturday Britain's provisional terms for joining the European exchange rate mechanism (ERM), officials said.

After discussing figures and

wording for four hours, senior EC

monetary officials agreed that the

pound sterling would join the

12-nation bloc's currencies Monday

at a central rate of 2.95 marks per

pound with six per cent fluctua-

tion allowed on either side.

"It is in substance an agree-

ment on two points, on the one

hand 2.95 (as a central rate) and

on the other the six per cent

margin," Hans Tietmeyer, a

board member of Germany's

powerful Bundesbank central

bank, told reporters.

After 11 years of membership by

other EC countries, Britain finally

announced Friday it wanted

sterling to join the ERM, which

keeps movement in the relative

rates of most EC currencies with-

in fixed bands.

The acceptable spread be-

tween the central rate and the

market rate for currencies in

ERM before central banks inter-

vene is either six per cent or 2.25

per cent.

Of the nine EC currencies

already in ERM — Portugal and

Greece have yet to join the sys-

tem — only Spain's peseta is

allowed a six per cent band,

which provides greater flexibility

in the management of a relatively

weak economy.

All the others have opted for

the 2.25 per cent band, trading

monetary freedom for stability.

Officials said Britain's six per

cent band was a transitional

arrangement. They did not spec-

ify whether a timetable had been

set for the pound to move into a

narrower bracket, joining other

major currencies.

The talks lasted almost six

hours, but this did not imply that

any major objections had been

raised, the Bank of England's

Andrew Crockett said.

"There really was no signifi-

cant questioning of the proposa-

ls," he said.

"It was an important event, I

think everybody recognised it.

There are 12 members of the

Community and 26 members of

the monetary committee and ev-

erybody wanted to speak," he

said.

Crockett said.

"There was no significant ques-

tioning of the proposa-

ls," he said.

"It was an important event, I

think everybody recognised it.

There are 12 members of the

Community and 26 members of

the monetary committee and ev-

erybody wanted to speak," he

said.

Crockett said.

"There was no significant ques-

tioning of the proposa-

ls," he said.

"It was an important event, I

think everybody recognised it.

There are 12 members of the

Community and 26 members of

the monetary committee and ev-

erybody wanted to speak," he

said.

Crockett said.

"There was no significant ques-

tioning of the proposa-

ls," he said.

"It was an important event, I

think everybody recognised it.

There are 12 members of the

Community and 26 members of

the monetary committee and ev-

erybody wanted to speak," he

said.

Crockett said.

"There was no significant ques-

tioning of the proposa-

ls," he said

## Grenade attack kills Mandela's infant relative in Soweto — ANC

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A child relative of Nelson Mandela was killed in a hand grenade attack early Saturday in Soweto, the African National Congress (ANC) said.

A 2 a.m. blast ripped through a building in the Meadowlands district of the black township near Johannesburg, killing an infant girl and injuring her parents.

First reports said the child was the great granddaughter of the anti-apartheid leader who is ANC deputy president.

But the ANC was less precise later, declaring a grenade and shotgun attack was launched on the home of Mr. Monde Mandela, "a close relative" of twice-married Nelson Mandela.

"Monde Mandela and his wife suffered extensive burns, and their one-year-old daughter was killed in the attack," a statement added.

It said Monde Mandela's grandfather was the brother of

Nelson Mandela's father.

The ANC leader's daughter Zindzi earlier told reporters that the dead child was his great granddaughter.

However, Nelson Mandela's first wife Evelyn Nomathamsanga, asked to explain her relationship with the couple, told Reuters: "I have not heard of them."

Police said the child's parents, wounded by shrapnel, were being treated at Soweto's Baragwanath Hospital after the attack on their home in Meadowlands Hostel married quarters.

Police spokesman Govindsamy Mariethoo said: "A black male, Monde Mandela, 43, and his wife, Suzanne Mandela, 29, received injuries and a baby of 18 months died on the scene."

There was no indication of who was responsible for the attack, amid persistent conflict between supporters of Nelson Mandela's ANC and followers of the Zulu

tribal-based Inkatha Freedom Party that has killed nearly 800 people since mid-August.

"The ANC notes the curious coincidence of an attack on a man bearing the Mandela name at this time," the ANC statement said.

On Friday, the South African government lifted a night-time curfew in Soweto, near Johannesburg, saying black factional bloodshed and crime there had declined sharply.

Mandela has said Mandela would meet President F.W. de Klerk Monday in Pretoria to discuss the recent township violence around Johannesburg.

Mandela and the leaders of the five South African tribal homelands said Friday they had agreed to form an anti-apartheid front for discussions with Pretoria on a non-racial democracy.

He was scheduled to return for Monday's hastily-arranged Pretoria meeting with de Klerk.

His daughter Zindzi, born from his second marriage with his present wife Winnie, later said that she could not explain the exact family connection between the wounded couple and Nelson Mandela, who divorced his first wife.

Current black faction violence has arisen from a feud pitting migrant workers loyal to Inkatha against local residents of the Xhosas and other tribes, supporters of the ANC.

Mandela last week said the government's National Intelligence Service (NIS) and army spies were using black agents disguised as Inkatha supporters to launch random attacks and to provoke conflict.

The somersault ejected Innocent, who was hospitalized with injuries. Casiraghi, defending the championship he won in 1989 at Atlantic City, New Jersey, remained strapped in the boat and died when it slammed him headfirst into the Mediterranean.

"The brutality of his death adds to our pain," intoned Archbishop of Monaco Joseph Sardou during the solemn ceremony.

"The sea, so calm today, holds dangers that must constantly be confronted."

Caroline sat in the front row between her father, Prince Rainier, and brother, Prince Albert.

Princess Stephanie, Caroline's young sister, wept throughout and had to exit the service for a short time. Albert left briefly to comfort her.

Caroline's three children from her seven-year marriage with Casiraghi were not present.

Sardou praised Casiraghi as "an exemplary sportsman and businessman," but added, referring to Caroline: "It was through his union with you, madame, that he found the greatest expression of his Christian faith."

Further work on the lagging

strategic arms reduction treaty will be left to negotiators in Geneva.

The aim is to get the technical work done so the treaty can be concluded when Shevardnadze goes to Washington next month.

Baker and Shevardnadze held their first round at the Soviet mission to the U.N., and set the second session for the U.S. mission across the street from the world organization.

President George Bush would like to sign the treaty on long-range missiles with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at a summit in Moscow in December.

Bush Thursday hailed the tentative accord on non-nuclear weapons, which would take a fair bigger bite out of the Soviets' arsenal than the American arsenal. It would force the Soviets to remove thousands of tanks, artillery pieces and armored vehicles from Central and Eastern Europe.

Bush said it would "decisively improve the balance of military power" on the continent.

The Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty would be the largest arms-control deal in history and the first in Europe since the end of World War II.

NATO and the Warsaw Pact each would be limited to 20,000 tanks, 20,000 artillery pieces, 30,000 armored combat vehicles and 2,000 helicopters in the area stretching from Europe's Atlantic coast to the Ural Mountains inside the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union's top military officer denied Friday that hundreds of modern Soviet tanks were pulled out of Eastern Europe to keep them from being counted under the expected CFE agreement.

"We have no plans to store or mothball large amounts of equipment that we are pulling out," General Mikhail Moiseyev, winding up a six-day U.S. visit in which he toured military bases and met hundreds of Americans.

U.S. Chief of Staff Colin Powell told reporters that he and other senior U.S. officials had been concerned about the tank movements in Europe.

## 29 MPs demand Singh's resignation

NEW DELHI (AP) — Twenty-nine lawmakers of Prime Minister V.P. Singh's Janata Dal Party have demanded his resignation, bringing into the open simmering dissidence in the 10-month-old minority government.

In a letter to Singh, the lawmakers held him morally responsible for what they called "all-round failure" of the government, United News of India said.

It was the first time that Singh's resignation had been publicly demanded within the Janata Dal, the largest constituent of the governing National Front coalition.

United News of India said the names of the dissident leaders were released by Yashwant Singh, who is closely aligned with a rival group within the Janata Dal. Singh did not release a copy of the letter.

"We want the National Front government to complete its full term of office and hence are demanding the change in leadership," Singh said.

The development was the latest crisis to engulf Singh since he took office last December.

The government is battling to put down riots by upper caste

Hindus sparked by Singh's decision to reserve nearly half of federal jobs for low-caste Hindus. At least 83 people have died in clashes and a rash of protest suicides since Aug. 7.

Besides, 57 people have been killed this week in battles between Hindus and Muslims. The violence is apparently related to a proposal by Hindu fundamentalists to build a temple on the site of a 400-year-old mosque.

The first signs of dissidence in the Janata Dal emerged on Sept. 30 when a top party leader, Devi Lal, resigned his parliament seat to protest Singh's handling of the job quota plan.

On Friday, Singh said he was aware that he did not have the majority to remove Singh, but "the day is not far off" when the required strength would be gathered, United News reported.

The Janata Dal controls 136 seats in the 529-member Lower House and 38 seats in the 245-member Upper House of parliament. The dissidents will need a simple majority to force Singh to step down.

Meanwhile police fired on rioting prisoners at a maximum-security jail in the capital Friday, the agency added.

killing seven inmates and wounding 107 others, a senior jail prison official said.

At least 76 jail officials also were injured in the riot at Tihar Jail on the southwestern outskirts of New Delhi, Hari Prem Kumar, the inspector general of prisons, told reporters.

Kumar said about 2,500 inmates rioted for more than three hours and also tried to escape.

Press Trust of India (PTI) said the riot was sparked by the death of an inmate Thursday night and later turned into a mass escape attempt. The rioters claimed that jail officials failed to give the inmate adequate medical treatment, the news agency said.

He quoted jail authorities as saying the prisoner, Hari Singh, died of natural causes. But the United News of India, said there was a report that Singh died in a clash between rival gangs.

The agency said some prisoners went to the kitchen in the jail complex Friday morning and set fire to cylinders of cooking gas. Some then climbed to the roof of the prison building in a bid to escape, the agency added.

India often accuses Pakistan of arming and training Muslim militants in camps inside Pakistan and sending them across to Kashmir where they are waging a separatist war.

NEW DELHI (AP) — Pakistan has intensified shelling on the border with Kashmir to provide cover for armed Muslim militants who are sneaking to India, a Foreign Ministry spokesman has said.

"A pattern of unprovoked heavy shelling by Pak forces has emerged since it started in the middle of August," spokesman Attab Seth said Friday.

He said Pakistani troops have shelled specific areas to create a diversion and cause an unparalleled spurt of infiltration by Kashmiri militants trained in Pakistan camps.

India often accuses Pakistan of arming and training Muslim militants in camps inside Pakistan and sending them across to Kashmir where they are waging a separatist war.

Caroline sat in the front row between her father, Prince Rainier, and brother, Prince Albert.

Princess Stephanie, Caroline's young sister, wept throughout and had to exit the service for a short time. Albert left briefly to comfort her.

Caroline's three children from her seven-year marriage with Casiraghi were not present.

Sardou praised Casiraghi as "an exemplary sportsman and businessman," but added, referring to Caroline: "It was through his union with you, madame, that he found the greatest expression of his Christian faith."

Further work on the lagging

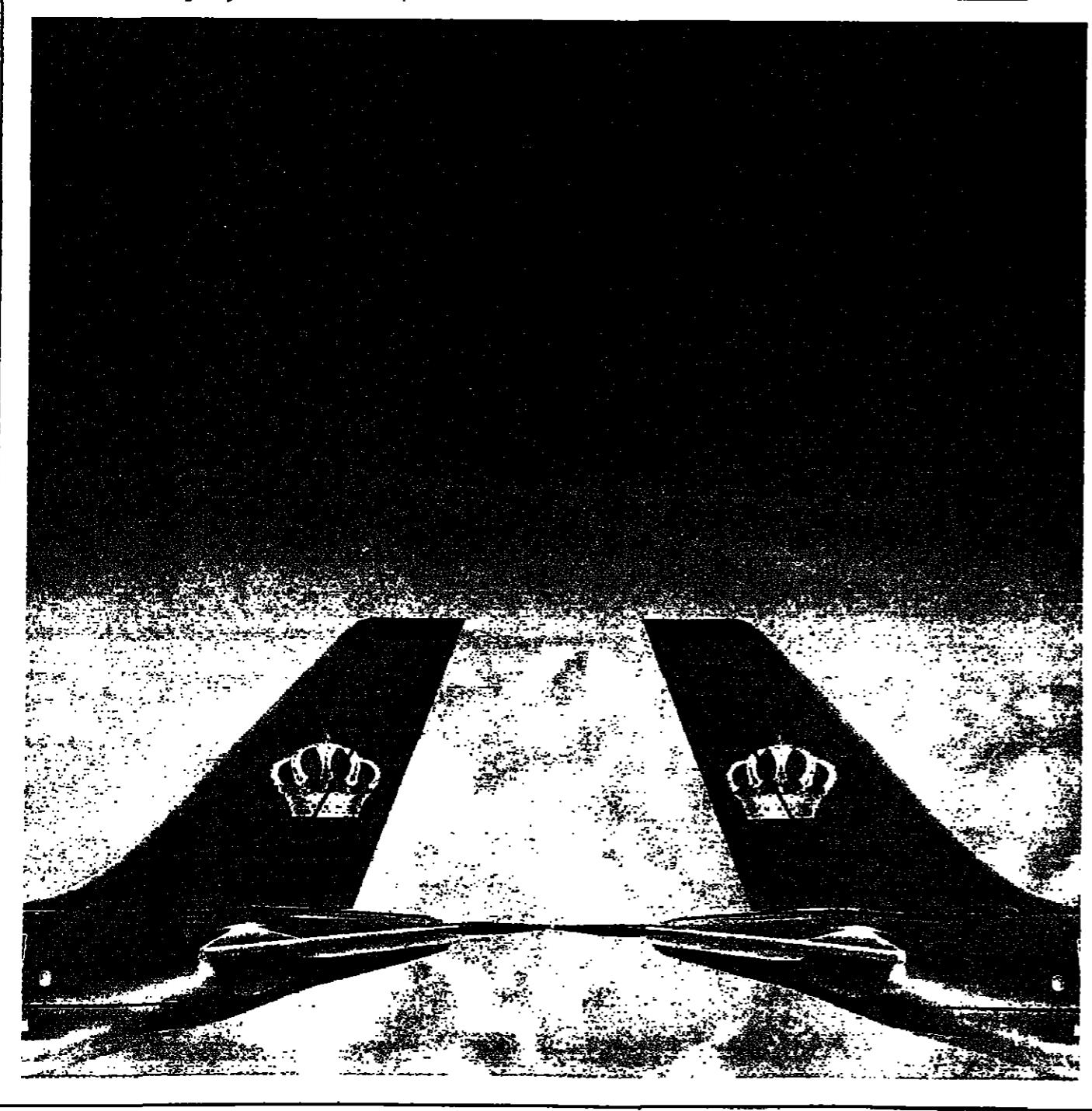
## DISCOVER THE WORLD FROM THE GATEWAY OF ROYAL JORDANIAN

Amman, a modern city 3,000 years old, has been the crossroads of civilizations for centuries. Today, it is still the gateway to both the western and eastern worlds.

Discover the world from Jordan, the home of Royal Jordanian. With a network spanning the globe from North America to the Far East, Royal Jordanian flies you to the world on the aircraft of tomorrow.

On your way to discovering the world, discover what a difference enjoyable travel on Royal Jordanian can be.

ROYAL JORDANIAN



## Caroline's husband buried in Monaco

MONACO (AP) —

Several thousand tourists and Monaco residents crowded around the cathedral Saturday during a tearful funeral for Princess Caroline's husband, Stefano Casiraghi, who died in a freak boat-racing accident.

The 33-year-old princess, wearing dark sunglasses, a heavy black lace head covering and black dress, wept over the casket during the 55-minute service.

Shevardnadze said the deal they want for a reduction in long-range nuclear missiles by about 30 per cent.

But they may have improved

prospects for success by the end

of the year and a summit treaty

signing in Moscow in December.

Secretary of State James Baker

said after the talks Friday that the outcome depends on a dispute over transfers to allies of nuclear arms and technology that would be banned under the treaty.

He said he made "good progress" on the issue, known as non-circumvention, with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. He added that if U.S. and Soviet negotiators in Geneva follow through, two other obstacles might be cleared.

As a result, Baker said, a U.S.-Soviet treaty to reduce long-range nuclear missiles, bombers and submarines by the end of the year "is still very possible."

"We are tired," Shevardnadze said, "but the results are good."

The two other unsettled issues

concern the kinds of tests the

Soviets would be permitted to

conduct of the 154 large SS-18

missiles they would be permitted to keep, and whether the Soviet Backfire bomber would be subject to numerical restrictions.

Apart from their work on

strategic nuclear weapons, Baker

and Shevardnadze cleared up the

few remaining differences on

another treaty to reduce North

Atlantic Treaty Organisation and Warsaw Pact non-nuclear weapons in Europe. Agreement in principle on this treaty was announced Wednesday.

Baker said these issues involved ceilings on aircraft zones in which arms would be limited and treatment of helicopters.

He provided no details.

Shevardnadze said the result is

the conventional forces in Europe

treaty would be ready to sign at a

34-nation summit meeting in

Paris Nov. 19-21.

"This is major accomplishment," Shevardnadze said.

Further work on the lagging

## Filipino rebel colonel surrenders

CAGAYAN DE ORO (R) —

The leader of a two-day revolt in the southern Philippines surrendered Saturday after failing to win support for an insurrection that the military said was designed to culminate in a Manila coup.

"It's all over. I gave myself up without any conditions," said renegade Colonel Alexander Noble, after abandoning the military camp he took over two days earlier. He had earlier vowed to die for his cause.

Noble and several hundred rebel soldiers, militiamen and tribesmen took over military camps in three southern Philippine cities early Thursday in an uprising to win independence for Mindanao, the second largest island in the Philippines archipelago.

But the insurrection failed to trigger revolts apparently planned for other parts of Mindanao and a demoralized Noble gave himself up early Saturday to

police

officers

who

had

helped

put

down

the

rebel

rebel